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Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015

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How ethical are your Mother's Day flowers? metroLIFE

The *new* Alberta

CHANGE: Meet some of the new faces

NOTLEY: What to expect from her first 90 days in office

BUSINESS: Stock markets nosedive after election shock

VIEWS: Chantal Hébert and Rosemary Westwood

FULL COVERAGE INSIDE

Toronto's left says let's go west

Alberta's premier-elect Rachel Notley waves to media during a news conference in Edmonton on Wednesday.
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLITICS

Progressives in the city eyeing Alberta after NDP landslide

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

"That's it, I'm moving to Alberta."

It was a funny joke made by many left-leaning Torontonians as the NDP cleaned up in the Alberta election.

The joke is a riff on the surprising number of American Republicans who threatened to leave the U.S. for Canada when Barack Obama became president in 2008.

People, regardless of their political leanings, have been Alberta-bound for the better part of a decade. Some 43,000 people flocked to the province from elsewhere in Canada during 2013 alone — a year when practically every other province saw people leave, according to data from BMO.

About half of those who've headed west are single people younger than 35, Statistics Canada studies have shown.

So will the new political landscape in Alberta spur a mass westward move by progressives?

An American psychology professor who studied the 2008 moving-to-Canada phenomenon found that American Republican voters were more likely to support the threat to move north to Canada, and the reason was they felt they didn't belong where they lived.

People are more likely to make a big move within their country if they don't feel like they'll have to walk on eggshells when they get there.

> **So, we are all moving to Alberta now. Socialist utopia run by women. Sounds like my kind of place.**
> Tweet from Keely Bland, a Prairie girl in Toronto

It's really all a matter of logic.

"If you're surrounded by people who disagree with you, you're going to want to move to a place where people don't disagree with you and tell you your beliefs are wrong or stupid or evil," said Motyl.

Toronto writer Spencer Gordon got in on the moving-to-Alberta joke when he tweeted: "See ya' later just moving to Alberta #albertavotes2015."

He has no plans to actually move to Alberta, but said he does see the province differently after the vote.

Gordon has never been to the province, but has friends there who lean to the left, including some who are "just kind of generally weird."

He's always worried they'd have a hard time fitting in out West.

"That was my assumption," he said, "but maybe it was totally wrong."

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Uber T.O. fights for existence

TRANSPORTATION

Company open to regulation as mayor seeks a solution

Tabassum Zaidi may not be the kind of driver you'd expect ferrying people around in her own car for Uber.

Zaidi was a science teacher back in her native Pakistan, but has struggled to find work in Canada.

"I couldn't find anything," said Zaidi, who has been an UberX driver for about four months. "I make money for survival."

The woman, who attended a pro-Uber rally at Nathan Phillips Square during the lunch hour on Wednesday, says she's never been worried about her safety.

Zaidi usually drives during the morning rush hour and in early evening, for about 6 to 7 hours a day.

As Zaidi tells her story, another UberX driver Anwar Haider strikes up a conversation, peppering her with questions, because his wife is also interested in becoming a driver.

"I love it. I was looking for a part-time job," said Haider, who has a full-time job in sales. For the past few months, he's been driving his Toyota Matrix on Friday and Saturday nights, estimating he earns about $30 an hour before expenses.

Alma Martinez, who lives in Whitby, is another new UberX driver, who says she feels perfectly safe driving strangers around.

"Uber knows where you are," she said, referring to the California-based company's smartphone app that tracks every ride, and uses credit cards so no cash ever changes hands. "Uber knows what passenger you pick up. They can track you down."

Those stories are the message that Uber Toronto's general manager Ian Black is trying to get across to Toronto's politicians about Uber's impact on the economy, and the jobs created.

Uber has always insisted that it is a technology company, with a smartphone app, linking drivers with riders, not a taxi company. It has always balked at being regulated, though it has now backed down, applying for a brokerage licence on Tuesday.

It did not, however, apply for a licence for its limousine operations, saying those rules were too cumbersome, and no licensing regime exists for UberX.

The city's licensing chief Tracey Cook said it would still be going ahead with its court action, scheduled for a three-day hearing to begin on May 19. Toronto is seeking an injunction to bar all of Uber's operations, citing public safety concerns.

Mayor John Tory has been more supportive of Uber, saying city hall needs to find ways to adapt to innovations, though he has no plans to stop the court action.

"We think there is a way to create regulation," Black said, adding Uber would be prepared to sit down with all stakeholders to find a regulatory framework for taxis, limos and ride-sharing. "These regulations exist in other cities. There is no reason why we can't bring them here to Toronto."

> **We can't have Uber taken away from the city.**
> Uber T.O. GM Ian Black

Beck Taxi's Kristine Hubbard has dismissed the push to find a way to co-exist, arguing Uber has been operating illegally, so why should taxi companies have to negotiate with it.

In an interview, Black acknowledged that the city's injunction application adds urgency to Uber's position, because "there's a chance the city takes Uber away from the city."

He said that's why Uber is ramping up its public campaign, urging drivers and supporters to call and email politicians to find a way for Uber to operate here.

"Our dream would be to apply for an UberX licence, but none exists," Black said. "The mayor has said a regulated solution is better than a litigated solution.

"We see that as a great outcome, but we also feel very confident in our legal position, and if it goes to an injunction, we are ready for that."

Uber, with an estimated valuation of more than $40 billion (U.S.), wants to push into other areas.

It has tested UberEats, which will deliver meals in some cities, and even UberRush, a courier service to get packages delivered quickly.

Uber Toronto general manager Ian Black speaks at Wednesday's rally outside city hall. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

In the U.S., it is running a carpooling service known as UberPool, where riders share a ride and split the cost with others going on the same route, bringing prices down even more.

"I think there is huge potential for that here in Toronto," Black said, adding it could reduce congestion, transportation costs and help drivers make more money.

But Black said the priority is to come up with a regulatory solution for its UberX application, before other products can be rolled out.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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‘We are going back to the table’: Union

TEACHERS STRIKE

Bargaining includes salary, class size, performance appraisals

The Durham high school teachers’ union and the public board are heading back to the bargaining table on Friday — the first time the two sides have met since a strike began three weeks ago.

Durham was the first of three public boards hit by job action by secondary teachers, who walked off the job April 20. Schools have been shut down and no talks have taken place since.

“The date has been on the books since the end of March (before the strike) and we didn’t want to see it slip away,” Dave Barrowclough, president of District 13 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers’ Federation, said Wednesday after a mass picket of 1,600 teachers outside board headquarters.

“We are going back to the table to see if we can get anywhere with the board, to see if we can chip away at things and get some things in the ‘agreed-to’ pile ... I’m not going to say I’m optimistic, but I’m not going to turn down any chance.”

The strike will continue until there’s a deal, he added.

Durham District School Board spokesperson Andrea Pidwerbecki said “we are hopeful this is the first step to achieving a fair negotiated settlement that put student success first and gets our students back to the classroom.”

Bargaining now happens on two levels, with central talks involving the government, school boards’ associations and provincial union executives hammering out major issues such as class size and salary. At the same time, local union districts and individual school boards bargain on non-monetary items such as unpaid leaves or performance appraisals.

On Tuesday, Premier Kathleen Wynne said she would “light whatever fires I need to light” under talks to reach central deals.

> **“I’m not going to say I’m optimistic, but I’m not going to turn down any chance.**
> Dave Barrowclough

However, on Wednesday, union leaders said they had not heard from her. “I honestly don’t know what she was talking about,” said Sam Hammond, president of the Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario. “We haven’t had any contact whatsoever from the Premier’s office, the minister of education’s office or the table team representing them ... nothing has happened.”

Elementary teachers begin job action on Monday, expected to be a form of work-to-rule rather than a full-out strike.

Hammond, who will provide specific details on Friday, said the union has tried “to not have a direct negative effect on students or parents.” TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NATHAN PHILLIPS SQUARE BLUE JAY TAKES WATER BREAK Scott Brady and his nine-month-old son, Jackson, cool off with help from the spurting fountains at Nathan Phillips Square as temperatures peaked at a sunny 22 C on Wednesday. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING

Get camera ready

Get outside this weekend and make some memories

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The sunny days that we have been dreaming about are finally here! Let’s celebrate by getting outside and memorializing them. And the activities don’t need to be planned, like day trips or graduations, even the most mundane activities like washing the car or clearing the yard can be the greatest backdrop for fun and memorable shots. Our phones and cameras are crammed with un-shareable photos of headless family members and bad lighting, so it’s time to pay some attention to quality not quantity and create shots that you will be proud to post now and look back on later. Here are some tips to get you started:

GET DOWN TO THEIR LEVEL

If you’re photographing kids, get down on your knees and snap some shots from their perspective. Also, don’t be afraid to get silly; make some faces and funny noises. If the kids don’t want to sit and smile, don’t force it! Let them act like themselves, have some fun, and be prepared to capture the shot when it happens.

GET IN THE SHOT

There’s nothing worse than coming back from a weekend trip or a holiday and realizing that you’re not in any of the pictures because you were behind the camera the entire time. Bring a small tripod or even a selfie stick to make it easy for you to get in the shot with your family, and use your camera’s self-timer and burst mode to make sure you capture everybody’s best angle.

LIGHTING IS KEY

Photography is all about light, and your camera’s little built-in flash might be more useful than you think. While a small flash won’t be powerful enough to light up a dark concert, it’s actually perfect for filling in harsh shadows on a sunny day. When the sun is high in the sky, force your flash on and watch as it magically balances out the glare and produces even lighting across the face and you will even add professional-looking “catch lights” to your subjects’ eyes.

Find out about more ways to learn to get a better shot, online and in-class, by visiting LearningLab.ca.

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Panamania brings art, culture to Pan Am Games

LINEUP

Festival boasts big names like The Roots, Janelle Monae

Feats of strength will be matched by feats of creativity at the 35-day Panamania arts and culture festival running in tandem with the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games.

That includes an impressive lineup of free concerts from the likes of The Roots, Flaming Lips, Jann Arden, Tanya Tagaq, Janelle Monae, Death from Above 1979 and many others; new theatre from Robert Lepage and Rick Miller; dance from Crystal Pyte and Veronica Tennant; and original work from artists including Edward Burtynsky.

"To say this is ambitious is an understatement," said Saad Rafi, CEO of the Games' organizing committee, at a press conference Wednesday unveiling the program.

The event boasts 250 performances and exhibitions from 1,300 artists.

"After you take in the fantastic sporting competition, we want you to stick around," he said.

Three main sites — Nathan Phillips Square, the Canadian National Exhibition grounds and the Distillery District — will host free concerts, fairs and celebrations while other venues will mount stage shows, dance performances and art exhibitions.

Nathan Phillips Square will host nightly victory celebrations for athletes, complete with fireworks displays and jumbo screens to broadcast opening and closing ceremonies.

The Distillery District and CNE grounds, dubbed the CIBC Pan Am Park during the Games, will operate as fairs from July 11 to 26 during the Pan Am Games.

Free concerts, food vendors and markets will offer up sounds and flavours from the countries participating in the Games.

Entrance will be free, but visitors will need to pass through metal detectors and other security checks to access the Pan Am Park, as up to 13 sporting events, including triathlon, indoor and outdoor volleyball, and rugby will be held at venues there.

About 90 per cent of the festival is free to the public, said Don Shipley, the Games' creative director of arts and culture. Ticketed events start at $20.

"We wanted to make it accessible. It's a really rare opportunity to see some of these artists," Shipley said.

Commuters and visitors will get that rare opportunity as they travel through the region.

The world premiere of Water's Edge, a series of images from famed Canadian photographer Burtynsky and six Pan-American counterparts, will be mounted at Union Station and Pearson airport.

And drivers stuck in traffic on the Gardiner may be soothed by Watercolour, a flotilla of boats with custom-made sails, representing each of the 41 participating countries, that will sail from Oshawa to Welland to bookend the sailing competitions.

The organizing committee commissioned 28 works, with $1.5 million in seed money, that will be making a world premiere at the festival.

As part of the commissions, Nicole Brooks will mount her show Obeah Opera, which she has been developing since 2009. Brooks wrote the lyrics, composed the music, and performs alongside her all-female cast.

"A lot of people get scared of the word 'opera.' Do not get sunken in with the definition of opera. This is not a European classical piece," Brooks said.

She thought her work, which tells the story of the Salem witch trials from the perspective of Caribbean slaves, fit the bill for the diversity the festival curators were seeking.

"To my happiness they thought it was worthy," she said.

The show runs in early August at the Young Centre in the Distillery District. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE ONLINE

For more information, visit toronto2015.org/panamania.

Dancers from Kaha:wi Dance Theatre perform during the unveiling of Panamania, the arts and culture festival in tandem with the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Models wear designs from Cuttin' Style Caribbean during the unveiling of the entertainment schedule for the Panamania arts and culture festival. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

POLICE

Vaughan's deputy mayor under OPP scrutiny

The Ontario Provincial Police have confirmed that they are investigating "allegations of criminal wrongdoing" involving Vaughan's embattled deputy mayor, Michael Di Biase.

The OPP said they received a request from York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe last month to "conduct an external and independent investigation into allegations of criminal wrongdoing involving a member of council for the City of Vaughan," said spokesman Sgt. Peter Leon.

"That investigation is ongoing, and so I can't speak specifically to it," he said.

This is the latest chapter in the saga involving the veteran regional councillor, who was the subject of a scathing report by the city's integrity commissioner. It found he broke code-of-conduct rules by interfering in the procurement process and creating a "culture of fear" among staff who pushed back.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EMPLOYMENT

Give vets first shot at public jobs: PCs

The Progressive Conservatives say veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces often have trouble finding work and should get first crack at Ontario public service jobs.

Interim PC Leader Jim Wilson introduced a private member's bill Wednesday that would give priority to current and past members of the military to help them land a provincial government job.

"The members of our Canadian Armed Forces make a commitment to our country that is virtually unparalleled," Wilson told the legislature. "When they're ready to leave the forces or have to leave due to a medical condition, they often don't have the easiest time finding new employment."

Private member's bills rarely become law in Ontario, but Wilson urged Premier Kathleen Wynne to "steal the legislation as a Liberal idea" if that would help get it passed in the legislature.

The federal government and New Brunswick recently passed similar legislation to give priority hiring to veterans for public service jobs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Creative approach that's making a big difference

HOMES FIRST

Winners will be announced at Tie One On fundraiser

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Every time Danika Hussey finishes a canvas, she feels like she's reintroducing herself to the world.

Hussey lives in the Savard women's shelter and turned to art during one of her most difficult times.

"I started to do art after I suffered a violent attack last year, in April," she said. "I sustained a lot of injuries.

"Through that, I turned into an alcoholic, in trying to cope."

Her work has been nominated as part of the inaugural Wanda's Arts Awards — a program designed to honour people living in Homes First's shelters and other transitional housing buildings. Each of the nominees started making art as a way to cope with and heal from a variety of struggles. The winner will be announced during a fundraiser next week.

Hussey came from a broken family and has been in and out of the shelter system since she was 16 years old. She's a single mother of four and working as a chef wasn't enough to keep a consistent roof over the family's head. The attack last April happened in a shelter at the hands of another resident, Hussey said. She was slashed in the face with a knife, resulting in 29 stitches, permanent scars and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Hussey moved to the Savard shelter, and, the next day, attended her first art workshop. Soon, her life started to turn around.

> **"I'm still learning. There's more I want to do"**
> Danika Hussey

"I was hungover from the night before, really bad, but the staff was all like, 'C'mon ladies let's go,'" she said. "I really didn't want to, but I went."

Hussey felt relaxed as she painted and chatted with shelter staff and other residents.

"I thought, it's been four hours and I haven't had a drink," she said. "Normally, I'd have the shakes, the hot sweats, those type of things, but I didn't. I thought, 'This is a pretty good outlet.'"

Today, she can sit for hours creating watercolour paintings of scenery, flowers and architecture. And, she said, she hasn't drank in excess since December.

If she wins the award, she plans to spend the $200 bursary on an easel and, maybe, an art class.

"I'm still learning," Hussey said. "There's more I want to do."

DETAILS

Wanda's Art Awards will be presented during the Tie One On event on May 13 to benefit Homes First.

For more information, visit homesfirst.on.ca.

Danika Hussey proudly displays her artwork along with that others have made for her. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

ON OFFER

During Tie One On, people can bid on ties and scarves worn by a host of celebrities. The offerings include some from these familiar faces.

A blue scarf with white polka dots worn by actress Charlize Theron. GETTY IMAGES

What's described as a "handsome" tie worn by Toronto Mayor John Tory. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

A green tie with white polka dots worn, and autographed, by the late NDP leader Jack Layton. GETTY IMAGES

A "fabulous" bow tie from Tyler Stewart (of Barenaked Ladies fame). TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

A scarf worn by Eleanor Wachtel, host of CBC's The Next Chapter. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

MARGINALIZED VOICES

Get together for celebration of 'food, fat and feminism'

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

What do tacos and feminism have in common?

They're both a lot of fun and best enjoyed in groups, says Amanda Scriver.

Scriver is the co-creator of Toronto's Fat Girl Food Squad, a blog and media collective that "celebrates all things food, fat and feminism."

The squad just marked its second anniversary and is slated to give a talk at next month's Allied Media Conference in Detroit.

To raise money for the trip, the group is having a taco party this weekend at the Le Dolci bakery. Tickets are $20, and should garner you "between six and eight" handmade tacos, Scriver said.

"When we hang out together we love to make tacos, so it seemed like a natural thing to do," she added.

The Allied Media Conference works to support marginalized voices in media, from minorities to persons with disabilities or what Scriver refers to as "abundant bodies."

"We started this blog because we didn't find people like ourselves when we went to PR and food events," she said.

"We're constantly fighting to be visually represented and people still don't feel as if we should be in those spaces."

The taco party starts Saturday at 6 p.m. For more information, visit fatgirlfoodsquad.com.

Amanda Scriver, left, and Yuli Scheidt of the Fat Girl Food Squad are hosting a taco party this weekend in Toronto. COURTESY OF AMANDA WILKINS

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Pinball lovers, limber up your flipper fingers

GAMING

Tournament is open to players of all skill levels

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Toronto's about to get tilted.

Next week, the city is hosting a five-day pinball tournament at Handlebar in Kensington Market, featuring local music and craft beer on tap.

"We want everyone to be involved, whether they're amateurs, experts or so-called pinheads," said the tournament's host, Michael Naphan, a writer and animator who's getting into character for the event.

"Most people think pinball is just flapping paddles, but instead it's an interactive, skill-testing game of chance and wonder," Naphan said.

Each night, players will compete on a different pinball machine, ranging from classics like Pin-Up to modern games like The Simpsons Pinball Party.

Prizes will be handed out for both highest score and most pinball enthusiasm. According to Napahan, there's a growing interest in pinball in Toronto, propelled by a fondness for nostalgia.

"Pinball is the highest level of achievement in analog gaming technology," he said. "The player is fighting against the elements of the universe, like gravity."

The tournament runs May 11 to 15. Matches start at 7 p.m.

Monday

A bowling-themed pinball game for those who love bowling but would rather play pinball.

FIVE NIGHTS

Five different challenges

Each night of the tournament will feature a different pinball machine. Here is the list and Naphan's review of each one:

Monday: Pin-Up
Tuesday: Time Machine
Wednesday: Jungle Lord
Thursday: White Water
Friday: The Simpsons Pinball Party

Friday

Simpsons Pinball Party will test your endurance with 570 episodes of play.

Tuesday

Time Machine allows players to visit past decades without altering history and preventing their own birth.

Wednesday

Imagine the cover of an '80s romance novel called Jungle Lord and then slap it on a pinball machine. Bingo.

Thursday

Experience the incomparable thrill of rafting the rapids while slouching over a pinball machine at a bar.

Michael Napahan is channelling his inner Pinball Wizard to host a five-day pinball tournament at Toronto's Handlebar next week. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO; OTHER PHOTOS COURTESY INTERNET PINBALL DATABASE

CHILD CARE

Thirty daycare centres at risk of closure despite new funding

Parents and child-care advocates are welcoming $120 million in new provincial funding to create up to 4,000 new daycare spaces in schools over the next three years.

But in Toronto — slated to get about 1,200 new spots under the provincial initiative announced last month — parents are scrambling to keep what they have.

"It is good to have more daycares in schools, but I don't know why they are trying to close our centre," said Venus Mawirat, whose three-year-old son Galen attends APS Daycare at North Preparatory Junior Public School — facing a June eviction.

The centre, near Spadina and Eglinton Avenues, is among at least three school-based daycares in the city being squeezed for space by schools that are bursting at the seams. Another 30 daycares are at risk due to provincial pressure on the Toronto District School Board to close schools with low enrolment.

APS Daycare, which serves 85 preschoolers, kindergarten and school-aged children, has operated at the Forest Hill-area school for 28 years.

Most of the parents who use the daycare's 20-space preschool room are like Mawirat, who lives in a nearby apartment building on a relatively low income and relies on a daycare subsidy.

"If I lose that spot I don't know what I will do," Mawirat said.

The school has said it needs the daycare's pre-school room for students and has offered alternative space elsewhere in the building, said daycare supervisor Debra Deonarine.

The move would cost the daycare $100,000 in renovations, Deonarine said. Even then, there would be room for only 16 children, she noted.

"It would be much cheaper for the school to use that other space as a classroom, because all they would need to do is take down a wall," said Deonarine.

If the daycare loses its preschool room, it wouldn't be able to sustain its programs and would have to close, she added.

The city actively works in partnership with school boards to ensure child care space isn't lost when there are enrolment pressures, said Shanley McNamee, director of strategic services for Toronto children's services.

School board officials sympathize with the daycare's plight, but say they need the pre-school room to accommodate 20 new students expected next fall.

"It's a school, and students are our first priority. The kids are coming in September, and we have nowhere to put them," said board spokeswoman Shari Schwartz-Maltz.

The Toronto situation is emblematic of the overall problem with child care in Ontario.

"We need a real child-care plan with targets and timetables," said Carolyn Ferns of the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care.

"It could start with the school system embracing child care as an equal partner in the education and care of our children."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HUDSON'S BAY

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Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10

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Taylor Scollon, left, and Brett Chang were the brains behind Line Six. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Line Six shuttle bus is calling it quits

TRANSIT

Legal hurdles, lack of clients spells end for private service

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

It's the end of the line for Line Six.

The troubled Liberty Village shuttle service, which aimed to give residents some relief from the congested King streetcar, announced Wednesday that it's ceasing operations.

"We didn't make the decision easily," co-founder Brett Chang said. "We just came across a realization that the legal challenges would be too much for us to surpass in terms of regulatory issues."

Those legal challenges stem from the City of Toronto Act, which grants the TTC a virtual monopoly on public transit.

Despite a successful pilot project in the fall, the possibility of a court battle put Line Six in a position where it couldn't apply for funding from investors, Chang said, meaning the company would have to rely solely on customers for start-up capital.

Chang said Line Six, initially expected to start running in January, had sold only about 25 monthly passes. That taught him and co-founder Taylor Scollon a valuable lesson.

"One of the things we learned was that people really do want to use one transit service," Chang said.

"They want one public transit option, and they just want that to be better."

With that in mind, the duo has already launched a new venture, InTouchGov.com, an online platform that lets riders leave reviews of their experience on the TTC.

"Part of the reason we started Line Six was that we believe transit can be a lot better in the city," Scollon said.

"And we believe people who don't work at the TTC and don't work at city hall can help make it better."

With "a critical mass of users," Scollon said the app could give the TTC access to granular, real-time data about how different routes are serving customers.

The transit provider could use that data to allocate its resources more efficiently, he said.

"It's Uber-style feedback for public transit," said Chang.

STREETCAR

Driver charged in fatal collision on St. Clair

A 27-year-old TTC streetcar driver has been charged after a fatal collision with a pedestrian.

The 80-year-man was struck by a streetcar while crossing St. Clair Ave. at Arlington Ave. at around 8:40 p.m. on March 20. He died eight days later.

The driver has been charged with failure to yield to a pedestrian and careless driving.

A police news release did not identify him.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HIGH PARK

Police show face of sex assault suspect

Police have released a sketch of a man wanted in connection with a sexual assault.

Police say a woman was walking in High Park at 9 p.m. Sunday when a man approached her from behind, threw her to the ground and sexually assaulted her. The man is described as white, 40 to 55, 5-foot-6 to 5-foot-8, with a medium build and a shaved head.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 416-808-7474, or Crime Stoppers at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Subway surfin' in the works

WHY NO WI-FI?
A Metro special report

TRANSIT

Stations being wired, but tunnels still years away

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

In Seoul, South Korea, the 9.8 million passengers who ride the metropolitan subway every day can make phone calls or stream high-definition Netflix shows during their commute — regardless of whether they're on board a car or inside a station.

A fully wired subway system may seem like a dream to many Torontonians, but it's closer than we think, said Ken Ranger, CEO of BAI Canada, the company tasked with adding Wi-Fi to TTC stations.

Together, the TTC and BAI have added wireless Internet to 15 stops along the Yonge-University Line and the goal is to have Wi-Fi at every subway station by 2017.

"After that, we'll start looking at the tunnels," Ranger said.

According to Ranger, creating a seamless Wi-Fi experience for TTC users requires turning subway cars into hotspots that connect to the Internet via a relay of antennas inside the tunnels.

"Your phone would link to the train and the train would link to the backhaul," he said.

There are some challenges to overcome before users can check their email between stations — the TTC's infrastructure, much of which was built in the 1960s, wasn't designed with tracks for fibre-optic cables in mind — but Ranger said the biggest obstacle is time.

"The issue with the tunnels is really access time and getting into the trains to do the work," he said. "It's a 20-hour system, but in reality, people are working there 24 hours a day."

Ken Ranger, CEO of BAI Canada, said wireless Internet is now at 15 stations on the Yonge-University Line, and the goal is to have Wi-Fi at every subway station by 2017. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Far from costing the TTC money, the Wi-Fi project is actually generating revenue for the transit provider. BAI paid $25 million in 2012 for the rights to wire up the TTC, money the firm will make back through advertising.

The TCONNECT service has proven popular with riders, Ranger said, with more of them using Wi-Fi than expected.

"It's 2015. You feel better when you can stay in touch," he said. "Just being able to send that one email saying you'll be late to pick up the kids from soccer practice is important."

RETAIL

Saks to open 3 outlets

Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5th will open its first three stores in Ontario in the spring of 2016, including a store in Vaughan Mills, the company announced today.

Stores, averaging about 35,000 square feet, will also be opened at Tanger Outlets in Ottawa and the Outlet Collection at Niagara at Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"We think there is a tremendous opportunity to have Saks OFF 5TH across Canada," said Jonathan Greller, president of outlets, HBC.

The company hopes to have 25 OFF 5TH stores in operation by 2019.

The collapse of discount retailer Target in Canada has loosened up the commercial real estate market. Target was operating 133 stores by the time it shut down.

"It's opened up some real estate for us to look at," said Greller, adding that it's possible HBC may announce more locations later this year.

The stores will feature open, modern, modular layouts and a "treasure hunt" environment, said Greller. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Researchers star in reality films

SOCIAL MEDIA

Short videos campaign hopes to raise profiles

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Researchers should be rock stars.

That's what Research2Reality, a new initiative spearheaded by a local filmmaker and a university professor, is trying to accomplish.

"What we have in Canada is a tremendous amount of research work," said Molly Shoichet, a chemical engineering professor at University of Toronto. "Research really impacts the way we live today and influences our lives of tomorrow."

But many Canadians don't know about it or, if they do, take it for granted, she said. Politicians talk about innovation technology all the time, but little of what's being done becomes general public knowledge.

Shoichet partnered with filmmaker Mike MacMillan to change that and spark people's curiosity and imagination.

Through short videos featuring researchers and their work, the campaign will be spread through social media and video channels accessible to everyone. Topics range from architecture to social sciences and economy.

"This will show the public the type of research that is done here, and what it holds for our future," said MacMillan, film producer and founder of Lithium Studios. "It will be like watching reality movies."

Research2Reality will officially launch next week, with 26 of the first 90 videos being shared online.

To start off, the project partnered with six leading Canadian universities: University of Toronto, McMaster, Western, Waterloo, University of British Columbia and University of Alberta.

Name: Patrick Gunning. Job: Medicinal chemist at University of Toronto. Research: Focuses on analyzing the interactions of proteins and cells, searching for applications that may lead to treatment of various cancers. CONTRIBUTED

Name: Raymond Laflamme. Job: Physicist, director of the Institute for Quantum Computing at University of Waterloo. Research: Quantum information theory, quantum computing, control, simulations and gravity. CONTRIBUTED

Name: Sally Aitken. Job: Professor in forest and conservation sciences department and director of Centre for Forest Conservation Genetics at University of British Columbia. Research: Population, conservation and ecological genetics and genomics of forest trees. CONTRIBUTED

HUDSON'S BAY

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Every Thing She Loves

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10

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Arrests in child porn sting

U.S. AND CANADA

Upload in York leads to cross-border bust of 41 people

It began with two sexually explicit images uploaded to a computer in York Region, and resulted in an international child pornography bust with dozens of suspects and potentially thousands of victims worldwide.

York Regional Police on Wednesday revealed details of an ambitious, cross-border online child pornography sting that has led to the arrest of 41 people — 17 in Canada — who together face more than 100 charges of possession, distribution and accessing of child pornography.

The year-long probe has identified 19 child victims, two from Ontario, but investigators say there may be thousands of others. "The investigation is ongoing and continues to grow with every stone that is overturned," said Inspector Tim Kelly, with York Regional Police Major Crimes Bureau, at a news conference Wednesday.

The investigation began in May, 2014, when the National Child Exploitation Co-ordination Centre in Ottawa contacted York Regional Police's Internet Child Exploitation unit with a tip that two pornographic images of a child were uploaded and sent to an email address from an IP address in York region.

Investigators located the house, obtained a search warrant, and discovered the young victim in the images had created them himself. "We went there looking for a suspect. It turned out that person was actually a victim and was coerced into taking explicit images and sharing them," Kelly said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

YORK REGIONAL POLICE

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STUDY

Predicted cons of having no Gardiner

Eastbound morning commutes on the Gardiner would increase by an agonizing 10 minutes between Park Lawn Road and the east end of the expressway.

Traffic congestion, if the Gardiner is torn down east of Jarvis Street, would also cost $36.6 million annually in lost productivity and divert about 1,600 cars a day from the Don Valley Parkway onto Richmond Street.

Those are among the findings of a study by the University of Toronto's Centre for Intelligent Transportation Systems, commissioned by the Gardiner Coalition, a group that includes the CAA South Central Ontario and the Toronto Financial Business Improvement Area.

The report, being released Thursday, comes a week before the city's public works committee tackles the difficult question of what to do about the deteriorating, relatively lightly travelled stretch of the Gardiner east of Jarvis.

The coalition would like the city to opt for the more expensive option of maintaining a direct link between the expressway and the DVP.

Its study suggests that the traffic implications of doing away with the elevated 2.4-km stretch would extend well beyond the Gardiner itself and that westbound commutes would also increase by up to six and half minutes.

The times are conservative, said the CAA's Elliott Silverstein, who called them a "best-case scenario."

"Lane reductions, construction, accidents, inclement weather also play into it," he said. The eight-lane boulevard that would replace the elevated expressway if it's torn down, which would see significant truck traffic, also presents a significant pedestrian barrier to the waterfront, added Silverstein. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE COST

A complete teardown of the road would cost about $416 million, according to the city. The so-called "hybrid" option, that would still connect east-end Gardiner drivers to the DVP, is estimated to cost more than twice as much, $919 million. But that's the coalition's preference, given that the third option — maintaining the existing structure — appears to have fallen off the table.

IN BRIEF

Man dies weeks after crash

Police say a 55-year-old man involved in a crash in St. Catharines last month has died in hospital.

Niagara Regional Police say the man was driving through an intersection on April 20 when his car collided with a vehicle making a left turn. The man, whose name is being withheld at the request of his family, was taken to hospital in critical condition. Police say he was pronounced dead Wednesday. The other driver wasn't hurt. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Late-night collision kills two

Two people are dead following a late-night crash in Hamilton.

Police say at about 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, a car crossed over from the northbound lane of the Red Hill Valley Parkway and struck a van that was travelling south.

A woman in her 20s was rushed to hospital with life-threatening injuries and a section of the Parkway remains closed. No names have been released. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Carving out a reputation

SMALL BUSINESS

Danforth shop takes butchery out of the back room

She breaks the carcass, tattooed forearms taut, one hand on the animal, the other working the blade. There's a shrieking grind as she saws through the pig's spine. She does this in the shop's window. Outside, a passerby takes in the morbid spectacle.

"Awesome," he mutters. Mo Morrison-Brandeis keeps carving.

"We think it's important for us to engage the customers in the meat that they eat," the 20-year-old butcher says. "Often, there's a level of shock from people walking by because they're not used to seeing this part of the process."

Every Thursday, Morrison-Brandeis butchers a lamb and a pig or two in the window of Stock in Trade — an unassuming little butcher shop in East Danforth.

Big butchery jobs have long been backroom affairs — customers usually only ever see delicately positioned cuts of meat in display cases. If you chance by Stock in Trade on breaking day, you can see a pig's smiling face and its dismembered limbs before they're carved into the cuts you're cooking for dinner.

"You can see it all," co-owner Jason Becker says. "We're not trying to hide anything. With meat, it's very good to be very transparent, because, well, it's what you put in your body."

Becker, 34, spent 15 years toiling in other people's windowless kitchens before opening his bright and airy shop last May. Space was at a premium so the decision to do the shop's dirty work in the front window was both pragmatic and philosophical.

"You can have more respect for it if you see it as a whole," Becker adds. "It's not just something you buy Saran-wrapped. It is an animal. It has emotions. It has a character."

This stretch of the Danforth, just east of Greenwood Ave., is relatively low-traffic. Those who do walk by often slow or pause to take in the work. Becker says people get particularly curious when they pipe sausage. Only one woman, Becker says, ever creates a fuss.

"Our delivery driver from Perth has a regular who will yell at him every Thursday when he brings the pig in," Becker laughs. "It's hilarious. I think she waits for him."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Butchery at Stock in Trade on the Danforth. Every Thursday, Mo Morrison-Brandeis carves up a lamb or pig at the front of the store, where passerby can watch. KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BACKGROUND

Stock in Trade is part of a new wave of businesses revitalizing the area. Focusing on locally sourced, ethically raised and hormone- and GMO-free meats, the shop aims to provide this mixed-income neighbourhood with quality food that won't break the bank.

TTC

Board needs 'gender balance'

Another female voice has been added to the Toronto Transit Commission board after Mayor John Tory questioned the diversity of the proposed membership.

Council confirmed appointments of four members on Tuesday, among them current vice-chair Maureen Adamson. She joins Councillor Shelley Carroll as one of two women on the 11-member commission

"While I respect the independent public appointments process, I have concerns with any result that does not respect the city's policy to meet both diversity and gender representation," Tory said last week.

Adamson, who is currently president of the Michener Institute of Applied Health Sciences and applied for her old spot on the board, told Torstar News Service last week that the committee should consider a "gender balance."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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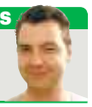
Taking on the Coen brothers

INDIE FILM

'Triumphant' filmmakers are subject of lecture series

BACKSTAGE PASS



Ian Gormley

More than Gus Van Sant, Steven Soderbergh or even Quentin Tarantino, Joel and Ethan Coen have proven to be the most groundbreaking and consistent filmmakers of the past 30 years.

"They are the most triumphant story of American indie filmmaking from the '80s — how they integrated into the mainstream without compromising anything," argues local film critic Adam Nayman.

The filmmakers are the subject of a lecture series — The Coen Brothers in Nayman's Terms — playing out at the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre. Nayman is leading the lectures, mixing film clips with his own take on a given film.

It's the second time he's looked at the Coens, whose movies he approaches as a "satisfied fan first." While he enjoys discussion and debate, he cautions attendees that he can't provide hard answers: "It's my own analysis, not a definitive explanation."

Unique amongst their peers, the Coens emerged fully formed. Their first feature, Blood Simple, shares many of the hallmarks of later triumphs like No Country for Old Men: "Botched plans and missed connections are a guiding narrative rule for all their films," Nayman says.

The brothers, who grew up in Minnesota, rival Woody Allen in terms of their output, dropping a new movie with astonishingly consistent quality every couple of years.

Like Tarantino, a filmmaker with whom they're often compared, the Coens raid American pop culture for their own devices, which usually means crime fiction and screwball comedies.

Unlike Tarantino, though, whose movies tend to be apolitical, the Coen brothers' films are fuelled by an underlying political streak.

Nayman points to The Big Lebowski, which explores the trickle down of '60s counterculture values, as a prime example. Pulp Fiction had a bigger effect on the culture, he says, but The Big Lebowski "is a much more brilliant, resonant work."

The Coen Brothers in Nayman's Terms runs Mondays at the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre through July 6. See milesnadaljcc.ca for full details.

Filmmakers Joel, left, and Ethan Coen are the focus of a lecture series in Toronto. GETTY IMAGES

UP NEXT

Adam Nayman's next discussion tackles the Coens' 1990 gangster flick Miller's Crossing and 2001's noir-ish drama The Man Who Wasn't There.

"Both are hugely nostalgic films," he says, "about characters who want change, who want to move beyond a current situation, and find themselves paralyzed to do so."

With its over-the-top style, Nayman considers Miller's Crossing one of the more overrated films in the Coen's oeuvre.

More underrated, The Man Who Wasn't There is a subtle affair, representing a small but significant change from a pair of filmmakers whose style has remained relatively consistent for the entirety of their career.

IAN GORMLEY/METRO

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The City of Toronto is looking for public input before making a decision on expanding gaming at Woodbine Racetrack. What do you want City Council to consider?

Woodbine Racetrack Casino

Public Consultation

Public Meeting: Monday May 11, 2015
Please plan on attending our open house to learn more and speak about this issue. Displays, presentations and staff will provide information about the Woodbine Racetrack location, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's (OLG) process for potential gaming sites, and this consultation. Staff will be on hand to answer your questions and record public remarks.

Etobicoke Olympium, 2nd floor Lounge, 590 Rathburn Road, Toronto.
- 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Open House
- 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Brief presentation, questions and public comments

Online Questionnaire
Click the "Have Your Say" link at toronto.ca/WoodbineCasinoConsultation to provide your views and feedback on expanding gaming at Woodbine Racetrack.

Executive Committee Meeting
City Council's Executive Committee will consider the City Manager's report on this issue in June. For information, visit **toronto.ca/council**

For more information about this consultation please visit toronto.ca/WoodbineCasinoConsultation

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THE REACTION

Stunned Conservatives downplay NDP victory

The Conservative caucus room was described as a morgue Wednesday as federal MPs grappled with political mortality after the New Democrats broke the conservative movement's four-decade grip on Alberta politics.

While they sought to downplay the notion that the NDP upset in Alberta is an omen for this fall's federal election, many acknowledged the playing field for that campaign has changed.

So-called safe seats just can't be considered safe anymore, said Deepak Obhrai, who has sat in the House of Commons as a Calgary Conservative since 1997 and was re-elected in 2011 with 67 per cent of the vote.

TORY SEATS

The Tories hold 26 of the 28 federal seats in Alberta, though redistribution means there will be 34 up for grabs this fall.

In the last six elections, he didn't face a serious challenge from the NDP, but with all four provincial seats within his riding now held by that party, he expects the next campaign will be different.

"More, stronger candidates will look at the results, so we expect stronger (NDP) candidates," Obhrai said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federal NDP celebrate orange wave in Alberta

Gleeful federal New Democrats seized the coattails of their victorious Alberta cousins, but while the two parties share the same family tree, the Prairie and Ottawa branches have fundamental differences.

For one, experts point to the roots of the Prairie New Democrats, which they say come from the anti-centralist mindset that dominated Canadian politics for much of the 20th century.

The Alberta NDP also hails from a province where the economy is dominated by the pollution-heavy oil industry, which has been a bull's-eye for criticism from federal New Democrats, said a political scientist who has studied Alberta politics for decades.

"The areas of difficulty (between the two NDP parties) would not be huge, but ... there could well be some," said Allan Tupper of the University of British Columbia.

Differences between the parties, however, didn't stop the federal NDP on Wednesday from inviting news cameras into its caucus chamber, where chanting MPs celebrated the Alberta win in the name of all New Democrats.

Federal NDP Leader Tom Mulcair tried to blur any lines of separation. "We've all got a spring in our step today," he told reporters in Ottawa.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Win could give party nationwide momentum

The Alberta election victory by Rachel Notley had New Democrats across the country talking Wednesday, but the only other NDP premier cautioned against reading too much into the party's success.

"Every province has different issues, although we all are focusing on the economy right now," Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger said.

But Selinger and Paul Thomas, of the University of Manitoba, feel that the victory over the Progressive Conservatives, who had been in power for 44 years, is bound to help by showing the NDP can represent a wider range of the population than many might think.

It's a boost for a party that has experienced some losses in recent years. Nova Scotia's NDP government was defeated in 2013 and there have been poor federal byelection results.

"It means that the national party can say, after a series of byelection setbacks, 'You know, we have got some momentum behind us,'" said Thomas, professor emeritus of political science.

He suggested the win should energize NDP politicians, volunteers and staff at the federal level and in other provinces by showing that if the party can win in conservative Alberta, almost anything may be possible. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"If we learn the lessons the voters attempted to teach us yesterday ... there is a way back.

Ric McIver, Calgary MLA and former Tory leadership candidate

"It was ... like a morgue.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay's description of the mood among federal Tories on Wednesday

"This isn't a massive shift to the left.... A lot of people who voted Wildrose last time voted NDP.

Lori Williams, political scientist at Mount Royal University

Alberta NDP Leader Rachel Notley reacts in Edmonton on Tuesday after being elected the province's premier. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LEADERSHIP: Notley's next 90 days

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Newly elected Alberta Premier Rachel Notley must do three things once she's in office:

1 Pick a cabinet

Notley was elected with 52 or 53 colleagues, depending on the outcome of a deadlocked riding in Calgary, but only three of her colleagues have been an MLA before.

The current cabinet is 19 ministers, but Notley can reshape hers anyway she chooses. In addition to looking for strong ministers, she will also have to include people from across the province.

Despite the relative inexperience of her caucus, Notley said Wednesday she won't have a problem putting together a governing team.

"I am really excited about my caucus in so many ways," she said. "I have far too many people who are skilled to select from."

Notley said her party is bringing in a lot of diversity to the table that will be good for the new cabinet.

"We have people from all walks of life, and I am very confident we will be able to put together a very capable cabinet."

2 Budget

In many ways, Notley's campaign was about running against the spending cuts and other measures that Premier Jim Prentice proposed in his budget this spring.

Notley promised to put in force the corporate tax increases that Prentice refused to implement and to restore funding he cut from health care and post-secondary education.

She said that during the transition her team would work to figure out how much of the budget can now be changed.

"We're going to be getting advice on that in the next few days, in terms of how quickly we can make those changes."

3 Soothe the oil patch

Alberta Energy companies saw stock prices drop based on the election's outcome.

Notley said she hopes to meet with a number of groups and business leaders to assure them there is no reason for alarm. Global investors would see soon enough that the sky isn't falling, she added.

MAKING HISTORY: Welcoming a new wave of female politicians

GENDER

25 elected NDP candidates in Alberta are women

Stephanie Dubois
Metro | Edmonton

For a province once known as the home of the "old boys' club," Alberta now has women in record numbers in the provincial caucus.

Premier-designate Rachel Notley was quick to note that shift in gender representation in her victory speech.

"I haven't done the math yet … but what I think is true is we have elected the most women to caucus in the history of Canada … so that's kinda cool," she said.

Out of 52 or 53 NDP candidates elected across the province, 25 are female.

A tie in Calgary-Glenmore between NDP candidate Anam Kazim and Progressive Conservative incumbent Linda Johnson could bring that number to 26, once Elections Alberta completes the official recount.

What's remarkable about the winning women candidates is that often, women aren't putting themselves forward to compete on the ballot, making it harder to get equal representation in politics, says Lana Cuthbertson, chairwoman of Equal Voice Alberta North.

47%

According to unofficial Elections Alberta results, 47 per cent of the winning NDP candidates were women.

"It's really about getting women running in the first place. The NDP made sure a lot of women did that, and the results speak for themselves," she said.

This "historic moment" for Alberta wasn't lost on the rest of the country, something that should be noted by other political parties, said Diane O'Reggio, executive director with Women's Legal Education and Action Fund in Toronto.

"To have a large majority of women in the legislature will be a benefit to not only women in Alberta but women across the country," she said.

NEW MLAs AND THEIR QUIRKS

Several Alberta NDP MLAs who claimed seats in Tuesday's vote are attracting attention for their lack of political experience and for their quirks. Left: in an image posted to Facebook, newly elected MLA Deborah Drever holds up a peace sign next to a T-shirt that features a marijuana leaf and the words "Magic Weed." Right: Shaye Anderson shows off his impressive beard, which has caused a sensation on social media. FACEBOOK

COMPARISON

N.S. knows this left-hand turn

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Halifax

Although acting NDP Leader Maureen MacDonald draws little comparison between the New Democrats' earlier win of a majority government in Nova Scotia and the party's recent victory out west, she believes both happened within a similar financial framework.

MacDonald said the Darrell Dexter government came to power in 2009 at a time when the province's revenues were dropping, just as Alberta's oil prices are currently plummeting.

"We came into government right after the financial crisis and the big meltdown," she said.

The challenge once faced by Nova Scotia's former New Democratic leadership to fund public services such as education and health care with low revenues is now on Alberta's premier-elect Rachel Notley and her new NDP government after winning a majority, MacDonald said.

In 2009, the NDP won its first majority government in the Nova Scotia, subsequently only lasting one term after a decisive loss to the Liberals in 2013.

Falling revenues resulted in having to make some difficult decisions, MacDonald said, such as raising the HST.

Despite the fact Alberta is a considerably richer province than Nova Scotia, MacDonald said Wednesday, the NDP is stepping into a familiar financial climate where service demands are high and incomes are scarce.

That insecurity creates a mounting public pressure on a new incoming government to deliver results, she added.

"We live in a world that expects instant results and government doesn't turn on a dime. It was a challenge for us and it will be a challenge for them."

The main lesson to take away from Nova Scotia's short NDP rule is to stay connected with the constituents, according to Halifax's NDP MP.

"They were so busy governing that they forgot to communicate with people," Megan Leslie said.

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS

Notley vows change for First Nations

Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

Just as Rachel Notley took the stage in Edmonton Tuesday night, Athabasca Chipewyan Chief Allan Adam stopped her.

"I had a chance to acknowledge her and gave her my congratulations," Adam said Wednesday. "I basically mentioned, 'Don't forget to mention the First Nations in your speech.'"

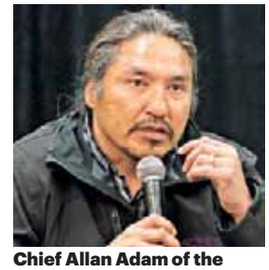
Notley didn't forget. She described her win as a call to "be better neighbours and better partners" with indigenous people, adding: "I'm looking forward to consulting with you and learning from you."

Her words — and the culture of change they suggest for a province fuelled by natural resources — reverberated through First Nations in Alberta Wednesday.

The oilsands and the natural gas industry are Alberta's central economic engines, built on industry gaining access to traditional indigenous lands and the resources they contain. Alberta has long worked to honour its often-competing obligations — to protect First Nation treaty rights while also allowing industry access to resources.

The results have been fraught with disputes.

Bill Gallagher, author of Resource Rulers, offers an in-depth look at how First Nations are increasingly successful in court in resource access battles, said Notley's victory is a rebuke to Jim Prentice and the PC Party's approach to relations with First Nations, who increasingly control natural resources.



Chief Allan Adam of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gallagher said there was much hope Prentice could shift the relationship when he took office, but it evaporated quickly.

"He drew another lawsuit from the Athabasca Cree in his first 100 days (in office)," Gallagher said. "Talking the talk, he gets high marks. Walking the walk, he didn't deliver."

Notley, on the other hand, is "on message and a quick learner," Gallagher said, adding that her tone bodes well for her fixing the relationship between Alberta and its nearly 40 First Nations.

Adam said the relationship with Alberta "was always on a rocky edge, an adversarial combat position." As a result, he said, that relationship often went to court to resolve things.

But after Notley's win, he said he's hopeful for a change.

"We will be looking for ways to work with the province rather than take them to court. It's a win-win situation."

BUSINESS

Oilpatch, Bay Street 'shocked' by NDP win

The new reality of an orange-tinged Alberta was beginning to sink in across the oilpatch and Bay Street on Wednesday and, though there were some jitters, many are awaiting more details before they pass judgment.

The NDP's election victory stunned Sonny Mottahed, president and CEO of Black Spruce Merchant Capital in Calgary.

"I'm pretty shocked," he said. "There's been quite a bit of chatter this morning about capital already looking at a way to invest outside of Alberta just across borders into B.C. and Saskatchewan."

The NDP has said it would raise corporate taxes to 12 per cent from 10 per cent and examine whether Albertans are getting their fair share of royalties.

The last time Alberta increased royalties, under former premier Ed Stelmach in 2007, there was an uproar from the industry and the changes were rolled back. At the time, the global economic downturn was just taking hold and producers were concerned the royalty increase would only compound their woes.

12%

The NDP has said it would raise corporate taxes to 12 per cent from 10 per cent.

Energy stocks were hurting on Wednesday. The group as a whole was off about 2.75 per cent. Major oilsands producer Cenovus Energy Inc. was down six per cent, while Suncor Energy Inc. and Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. were down about three per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

QUEBEC PROVINCE LOOKS AT GETTING TOUGH ON SMOKING Robert Labelle smokes a cigarette as his friends Gilles Garand, left, and Michel Casey, centre, look on, Wednesday in Montreal. The Liberals tabled Bill 44 Tuesday, which would put an end to smoking on restaurant and bar patios. Some bar owners are worried that the new rules will result in clients opting to stay home at a time when business is already slumping. COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NEWFOUNDLAND, NOVA SCOTIA AND MANITOBA

Suspicious packages sent to courts

Some court buildings in two Atlantic provinces dealt with suspicious packages on Wednesday, the latest in a series of similar incidents.

Police in Newfoundland say a total of five suspicious packages were reviewed without incident.

In Nova Scotia, RCMP said court buildings in Sydney, Yarmouth, Digby, Port Hawkesbury and Truro had suspicious packages delivered or intercepted before delivery Wednesday.

RCMP Staff Sgt. Boyd Merrill says the packages in Newfoundland were reported in Grand Falls-Windsor, Gander, Stephenville, Clarenville and Grand Bank.

The RCMP say none of the packages have so far posed a risk to the public.

Two more packages forced the evacuation of the provincial Supreme Court building in St. John's and the Danny Williams Building, a court complex in Corner Brook.

Packages were received April 8 at Manitoba provincial court buildings in Winnipeg, Brandon, Morden and Minnedosa, all of which tested negative for dangerous substances.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Omar Khadr rejects terrorism, al-Qaida

ALBERTA

Former Guantanamo inmate opens up in interview

Former Guantanamo Bay inmate Omar Khadr still suffers nightmares of the firefight in which he was grievously wounded, and still isn't entirely sure what happened that fateful day, but says he wants no part of violent extremism.

The information — a rare insight into Khadr's views in his own words — is contained in an extensive interview he did recently with a prison psychologist in support of his successful bid to be reclassified as a minimum security inmate.

"You shouldn't distort things to appease others or to suit your own agenda. I don't believe in al-Qaida killing innocents to further their belief," Khadr says.

"I hope there won't be this terrorism nonsense — I'm not going to get involved."

American soldiers captured Khadr, then 15, in the bombed-out ruins of a compound in Afghanistan following a brutal four-hour battle in July 2002. He had gaping wounds in his back, shrapnel in his eyes.

Khadr says he's still not sure exactly what went down in the firefight that left U.S. special forces soldier Sgt. Chris Speer dead and Sgt. Layne Morris blinded in one eye.

"I heard Americans. I heard shooting. I was scared. I had a hand grenade. I threw it over my back and it exploded. I wanted to scare them away. I wasn't thinking about the consequences. After that, I was shot," he says.

"I have nightmares of the firefight. Sometimes I can't run away in the dreams."

Following his capture, the Toronto-born Khadr was taken to Bagram and then shipped to Guantanamo Bay, where he remained for a decade. In 2010, he pleaded guilty to five war crimes before a discredited U.S. military commission, including murder for Speer's death and spying. Even so, he says, he clings to the hope it wasn't him that killed Speer.

> **"I don't believe in al-Qaida killing innocents to further their belief.**
> Omar Khadr

"I still take responsibility," he says. "If I did kill (Speer), that would be a very sad thing."

The documents, filed in the Alberta Court of Appeal, are part of Khadr's bid for bail while he appeals his war crimes conviction in the United States.

The court will rule Thursday whether to grant the federal government's request to stay an earlier ruling that he should be allowed out. A ruling in his favour could see him leave prison for the first time in almost 13 years under several restrictions that include wearing a tracking device.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

Sex discrimination at aboriginal fishery

The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal has ruled that a Nova Scotia aboriginal community discriminated against a female member by denying her work in the local fishing industry because of her gender.

The tribunal decision found that Stacey Marshall Tabor encountered discriminatory behaviour on the Millbrook First Nation for several years due to the fact that she was a woman.

The decision found that Tabor was frequently passed over for fishing boat positions in favour of male candidates, some of whom were less qualified than she was.

The tribunal also said Tabor was subjected to derogatory remarks, citing an instance when a senior band member said "the only place for women's breasts on a boat was on the bow as a figurehead."

The tribunal says the First Nation provided inconsistent and unreliable evidence to refute Tabor's claims and ultimately ruled that her complaints were substantiated.

According to testimony accepted by the tribunal, Tabor then expressed an interest in taking on more demanding fishing jobs, but was told she lacked qualifications. Months later, the decision says, that same work was offered to Tabor's husband despite the fact that his only fishery experience was "preparing gear and painting buoys."

Tabor did eventually secure fishing jobs, but the tribunal ruling said her work history was interrupted by pregnancy and injury.

She then went through a three-year period during which her applications for fishing work were denied despite her Master Limited certificate and fishing experience.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Suspended senator Mike Duffy leaves the courthouse in Ottawa on Wednesday. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dog story pooched

MIKE DUFFY TRIAL

Two witness testimonies don't back Crown claims

An allegation made by the Crown in the earliest hours of Sen. Mike Duffy's trial appears to be on uncertain ground following the testimony of a pair of the prosecution's own witnesses.

Crown attorney Mark Holmes said in his opening statement last month that Duffy and his wife had travelled on the public purse in July 2010 to meet with then-MP Dean Del Mastro and go to a dog show in Peterborough, Ont.

"They arrange to acquire a puppy and drive home. That is portrayed as public business," Holmes said on April 7.

"It's in effect a shopping trip."

That particular travel claim earned Duffy a breach of trust and fraud charge — two of the 31 charges to which the suspended senator has pleaded not guilty.

But two of the witnesses subpoenaed by the Crown to talk about the Peterborough travel did not directly corroborate the "shopping trip" part of the allegation.

First, dog show organizer Louise Lang said that she had exchanged niceties with Duffy and his wife Heather at the dog show, but beyond that did not know what they had been up to.

On Wednesday, the court heard from former dog breeder Barbara Thompson, on the phone from New Brunswick. Thompson said that the Duffys had purchased a Kerry Blue Terrier from her in January 2011, after coming to see the puppy the previous November.

"Heather and Mike Duffy never, ever got a dog from you at the Peterborough dog show?" asked defence lawyer Donald Bayne.

"No they didn't," responded Thompson.

"And you never, ever met them at Peterborough dog show?"

"No I did not," she replied.

Thompson made a vague reference to Duffy perhaps having met with a Quebec dog breeder in Peterborough, but she herself was not there.

The court also heard Wednesday morning from broadcaster and columnist Ezra Levant, who said he wrote two or three nonpartisan speeches for Duffy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **They arranged to acquire a puppy and drive home. That is portrayed as public business. It's in effect a shopping trip.**
> Crown attorney Mark Holmes

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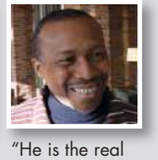

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PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE THE MIRACLES ARE.

A member of the public walks past a betting shop window with a display for the general election in Govan, Scotland, on Wednesday. Britain goes to the polls Thursday.
SCOTT HEPPELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blay suspended over threat to shoot rival

U.K. INDEPENDENCE PARTY

Candidate recorded by an undercover reporter

Britain's political leaders visited factories, farms, supermarkets and schools Wednesday on the final day of campaigning before an election predicted to be excruciatingly close and frustratingly indecisive.

The election race drew to a bumpy close for the U.K. Independence Party (UKIP), which suspended a candidate for making remarks about shooting his Conservative opponent in the head.

Robert Blay, who was running in the southern English seat of North East Hampshire, was recorded by an undercover reporter saying he would "put a bullet between (the) eyes" of Conservative candidate Ranil Jayawardena if Jayawardena became prime minister.

The Daily Mirror ran footage of Blay making the comments and saying Jayawardena, who has Sri Lankan heritage, was "not British enough to be in our Parliament."

"We've suspended him immediately, which is the right thing to do, and we do have a history of getting rid of people when they do something wrong very quickly indeed," said UKIP deputy chief Paul Nuttall.

Hampshire police said they were reviewing the comments as part of "initial inquiries" but added that no one had been arrested.

It is the latest in a string of embarrassing comments by members of UKIP, which has seen support grow for its anti-European Union stance and hopes to win a handful of seats on Thursday.

Small parties could play a major role in determining who governs Britain after an election that polls suggest is too close to call. Neither the Conservatives nor Labour look likely to win a majority of House of Commons seats, and their poll ratings have barely shifted during the monthlong campaign, with each supported by about a third of voters.

Both big parties, however, insisted they were aiming for outright victory.

Prime Minister David Cameron acknowledged he was "nervous" about the result but said he hadn't spent time planning for post-election talks with prospective coalition partners.

"I'm out there trying to convince people that the Conservative Party has the right answers to keep the economy growing, to keep creating those jobs, cutting those taxes, investing in our NHS (health service)," he said.

Labour Leader Ed Miliband told BBC radio: "I'm not countenancing defeat. I'm focusing on winning the election."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Germanwings co-pilot practised steep descent
The co-pilot of Germanwings Flight 9525 appears to have practised sending the jetliner into a deadly descent on another flight, just two hours before he intentionally crashed into the French Alps, investigators said Wednesday. The revelation appears to support the theory that the Germanwings crash was not only deliberate but premeditated. It came in a 30-page interim report from a French accident investigation agency. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Migrants rescued after 12 days at sea

Nearly 100 migrants who reported being at sea for 12 days arrived in Sicily on Wednesday as diplomats mulled a draft UN resolution authorizing an EU mission to seize the smugglers' boats that are fueling the Mediterranean migrant crisis.

The 98 migrants, a third of them women and three of them pregnant, were among hundreds of would-be refugees who arrived in Italian ports Wednesday after being rescued from overcrowded dinghies and fishing boats in recent days. Most have set off from Libya, where human traffickers charging migrants around $1,000 apiece are operating with near-impunity amid the country's political chaos.

A draft UN resolution would authorize an EU mission for one year to seize boats where there's credible evidence they're being used by smugglers, a council diplomat said Wednesday in New York.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three Masonic 'police' arrested

CALIFORNIA

Conspiracy feared to imitate law enforcement

Three people, one an aide to California Attorney General Kamala Harris, were arrested after claiming to operate a police department with jurisdiction in 33 states and Mexico and that traces its roots back 3,000 years.

Brandon Kiel, David Henry and Tonette Hayes were taken into custody last week on suspicion of impersonating officers as members of the Masonic Fraternal Police Department, Los Angeles County sheriff's officials said.

Sheriff's spokeswoman Nicole Nishida said detectives believe other people may be involved in the operation and deputies found ID cards, uniforms, and vehicles that appeared to look like law enforcement vehicles along with other official police equipment during their search of a home and office linked to the group.

It's not clear whether any of the suspects attempted to do any real police work.

State records show Hayes is licensed as a security guard and has a firearm permit. She previously owned Masonic Security Service, while she and Henry run MIB Investigative Agency, though its state license is suspended.

Kiel, 31, worked as deputy director of community affairs at the California Department of Justice since July 2013. He has been on paid administrative leave from his $67,416-a-year civil service job since Thursday.

The investigation started after various police chiefs in Southern California received a letter in late January that announced new leadership for the Masonic Fraternal Police Department, sheriff's officials said.

In the letter, the group claims it is registered with the state and is informing the chief it will be working with "Grandmasters, as well as fraternities and sororities throughout Sovereign Jurisdictions around the country."

The letter claims there are 5,686 lodges and that the department "will be able to acquire intel that is not accessible to non-fraternal entities." It said one aim of the department was to restore public trust.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTRALIA BLINKY BILL VISITS THE HOSPITAL In this April 20 image made from a security video on Tuesday, a koala strolls through the automatic doors of Hamilton Base Hospital in Victoria state, Australia. The Health Service's CEO nicknamed the creature Blinky Bill, after a fictional koala first popularized in a series of children's books.

WESTERN DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARGENTINA

Disputed death to be examined

Two medical teams are meeting in Argentina's capital in an extraordinary session aimed at concluding whether the head prosecutor investigating the country's worst terrorist attack killed himself or was slain by another person.

The meeting began Wednesday after months of debate about how Alberto Nisman died Jan. 18, when he was found in his bathroom with a bullet in his head. The shot that destroyed Nisman's skull was fired with a gun that was loaned to him by aide Diego Lagomarsino, a computer technician who said the prosecutor asked for the weapon because he feared for his and his daughters' lives.

There is no doubt that the gun was the weapon that killed the prosecutor. But the lead investigator says authorities have not determined whether Nisman took his own life or was killed by someone else.

Sandra Arroyo Salgado, the late prosecutor's ex-wife, hired a forensic team that determined Nisman was slain by another person.

The meeting of medical officials aims to sort through that and other discrepancies. It is unclear when they will announce their conclusion.

Days before he died, Nisman accused President Cristina Fernandez of helping Iranian officials cover up their alleged role in the 1994 unsolved bombing of a Jewish community centre. A federal judge has thrown out the case, while Fernandez has denied the allegations against her and Iran has long denied any role in the bombing.

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Barbed wire vs. Russia's power

KHARKIV REGION

Ukrainian fortifications reminiscent of WWI trenches

The flimsy, razor-wire-topped fences popping up along bare expanses of Ukraine's eastern frontier are the first line of defence against a much-feared Russian invasion.

Trenches fortified by timber have been hollowed out for soldiers to take up positions. And bulky, metallic obstacles looped together with more barbed wire are laid across the fields to halt advancing tanks and infantry.

A little more than a year and a half ago, the very idea of creating such fortifications — reminiscent of First World War trench warfare — would have struck many as perverse. But the project was announced with fanfare in the summer, as fighting against Moscow-backed separatists reached peak intensity.

In December, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk said that the program, dubbed "Project Wall," would cost almost $520 million and take four years to complete.

Now doubts are creeping in.

With much of eastern Ukraine in the hands of Russian-backed separatists, large swaths of the border remain impossible to secure — meaning enemy troops can just sneak in through areas under rebel control. And cash-strapped authorities have already had to revise budgets downward, so there's little money for building defences.

The project is for now centred on the Kharkiv region, which lies north of the conflict zone and shares a 315-kilometre border with Russia. To insulate that region from any separatist offensive, another layer of protection is being built on the frontier with areas under rebel control.

Views are mixed among residents in the city of Kharkiv, the regional capital, about the wisdom of building defences.

Some in the economic powerhouse of 1.4 million people embrace the idea and look with distress to the fate that befell the neighbouring, mainly Russian-speaking Donetsk and Luhansk regions. More than 6,000 people have died to date as a result of fighting between government and rebel forces.

In this photo taken in April, a Ukrainian border-guard officer speaks on a phone near a fence at the Ukrainian-Russian border near Hoptivka, Kharkiv. INNA VARENYTSIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We need to protect ourselves somehow," said Sergei Kotlyar, 46. "But, of course, this won't give us 100 per cent guarantees, even if it holds back the enemy for a little time."

Others believe investing in fences and trenches is a waste of money, noting that anti-tank defences will be of limited use against the rocket launchers widely deployed over the course of the war.

"Who is it going to stop?" said 22-year-old Kharkiv resident Anatasia Duda. "A country like Russia definitely has the means to deal with slabs of metal. And what's the use of that wall when the border with Donetsk isn't even under control?"

In earlier times, lines separating the republics of the Soviet Union were viewed as little more than a formality, so families and communities straddled inconspicuously across borders. On paper, that changed with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

> **"What's the use of that wall when the border with Donetsk isn't even under control?**
> 22-year-old Kharkiv resident Anastasia Duda

But scant security along the 2,300-kilometre demarcation between Russia and Ukraine has for two decades ensured a smuggler's dream.

Farmers and their livestock blithely crisscrossed in areas where it has never quite been entirely clear which country one was in.

With the government forced to cut costs across the board as the economy struggles under the weight of war, the budget for the project has been reduced twofold.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

No charges for Snowden statue-makers

A lawyer for the mystery artists who affixed a bust of Edward Snowden to a New York park's war monument says they've been ticketed but not criminally charged.

Ronald Kuby says the two got summonses for being in a park after hours, a noncriminal violation.

Parks officials ordered the statue removed hours after it appeared overnight without permission. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baltimore requests federal probe of police

Baltimore mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake called on U.S. government investigators Wednesday to look into whether this city's beleaguered police department uses a pattern of excessive force or discriminatory policing.

Baltimore saw days of unrest after Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black man was taken into custody and suffered critical injuries. Gray died a week later. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Youth exodus intensifies

DISASTER

No hope for jobs remains in Nepal post-earthquake

In this April 29 file photo, people clear the debris from damage caused by an earthquake in Sakhu, on the outskirts of Kathmandu, Nepal. BERNAT AMANGUE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Gone, the girl says as she squints into the sun, air around her shimmering with windblown wheat chaff. She points to one house after another in the green hills, most shattered from the massive earthquake that hit Nepal last month.

"Over there, one has gone. The same over there. Most of the young people here are gone. At least one for every house," Smriti Bastola, 16, says of this poor village of 400 people just 25 kilometres (15 miles) east of the capital, Kathmandu. Most left for the Persian Gulf or in Kathmandu.

"We are living a miserable life here," Bastola says. "We are educated, but what jobs are there besides working in the fields for little money?"

This youth exodus, a painful choice between staying with family in impoverished hometowns or venturing into an often-harsh world to make much-needed money, began well before the 7.8 magnitude earthquake on April 25 knocked flat whole villages.

However, some in rural Nepal wonder if they'll lose even the young ones who've stayed, complicating not only the job of rebuilding after the quake but the task of improving village life in one of the world's poorest countries.

"The country is like an elder home because all the young people are in Qatar, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia," says Nishchal Pandey, director of the Centre for South Asian Studies, in Kathmandu. "If these young people aren't going to be at home, who's going to do the reconstruction? The elderly aren't. The little children aren't."

The problem can be partially traced to a decade-long Maoist insurgency. It ended in 2006, but the country's infrastructure and economy have still not recovered, Pandey says.

> **"There is no one to bring the raw materials ... to fix the broken houses.**
> Triveni Bastoli, age 27

Because the Maoists often forced rural young people to join them, many left for Kathmandu or foreign countries. As Nepalis gained reputations for being honest, hard workers, they were welcomed in the Gulf as construction workers, guards and manual labourers. Others in rural Nepal followed.

Today, about six million Nepalis, or 22 per cent of the country's 27.8 million people, live and work outside its borders, according to Krishna Prasad Dhakal, Nepal's deputy ambassador to India. Some 3 million are in India. Another 2.1 million are in the Persian Gulf area and Malaysia, Pandey says. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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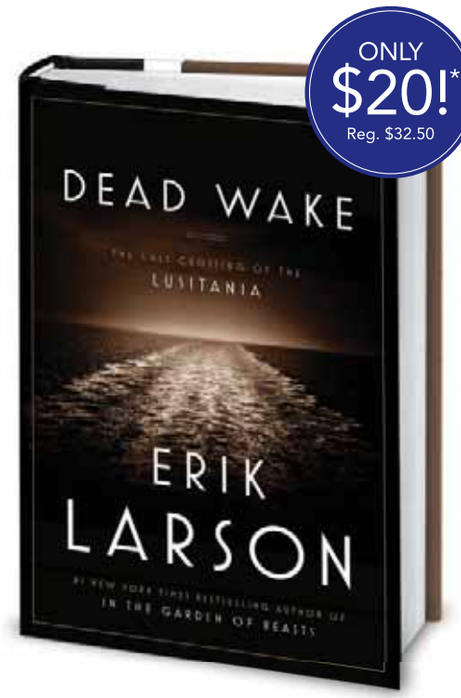

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Attendees wear Oculus Rift HD virtual reality displays as they play EVE: Valkyrie, a multiplayer virtual reality shooter game, at the 2014 International CES. ROBYN BECK/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Oculus Rift's launch date set

GAMING

Facebook says virtual reality headset to ship early next year

Virtual reality is getting closer to a commercial reality as Facebook-owned Oculus VR has announced a consumer version of their headset will become available in early 2016.

"We're incredibly excited to announce that the Rift will be shipping to consumers in Q1 2016!" tweeted Nate Mitchell, Oculus's vice-president of product.

Oculus VR launched the current wave of virtual reality, unveiling the prototype of the Rift in 2012 to rapturous reviews. The company launched a Kickstarter campaign that raised just over $2.4 million. Facebook purchased the company for $2 billion in March 2014.

Virtual reality technology has had many highs and lows over the last 40 years, but has failed to capture people's imagination for a number of reasons. Early attempts featured cumbersome technology that lacked the ability to create truly immersive graphics experiences and carried high costs.

Improvements in screen technology, graphics and the current focus on the potentially lucrative hardcore gamer market have drawn big-name companies to the technology in recent months. Despite the current hype, there are still some issues, including the potential to cause motion sickness in some users.

Oculus revealed a little more information in a blog post. The model will be based on the Crescent Bay model available as part of the developer's kit for the device.

"The Oculus Rift builds on the presence, immersion, and comfort of the Crescent Bay prototype with an improved tracking system that supports both seated and standing experiences, as well as a highly refined industrial design, and updated ergonomics for a more natural fit," the company said in the post.

With many companies aiming to release commercial versions of their virtual reality products by the end of this year, Oculus faced being left behind.

Oculus has been working on the creation of a full experience, and even warned its competitors not to release bad headsets for fear of turning people off the nascent technology. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Canada Post gives online shoppers more options

Canada Post is launching a new feature that gives online shoppers greater control over their parcels. The postal service said Wednesday that FlexDelivery will allow customers to decide which post office receives the delivery of their online order instead of being mailed to their home. Canada Post said consumers will need to register for a unique identification code on their website. When the order arrives, the user will receive an email notification. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kickstarter project fails

Backers of a failed effort on the crowdfunding website Kickstarter are considering their options after founders of a coffee maker missed a mid-April deadline to get the project back on track.

ZPM Espresso claimed its Nocturne coffee maker was the world's first smart espresso machine for the home because of a programmable control chip. In January, ZPM Espresso announced it was shutting down. Now supporters who spent as much as $1,000 US on the machine are looking for answers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NDP reveals big cracks in Tory armour

POLITICS
Chantal Hébert

This is a week when sizeable potholes have surfaced on Stephen Harper's road to re-election.

The NDP's majority victory in Alberta has reinforced the federal New Democrats' claim that their party is ready for prime time nationally. At a minimum, the provincial election has exposed cracks in the walls of the country's main Conservative fortress.

At the same time, Harper is suddenly at risk of losing the upper hand on the central battlefield of tax cuts to the Liberals.

The two developments are independent of each other, but what connects them is that they find the ruling Conservatives playing defense on two flanks that they believed to be bullet-proof.

The 40 per cent of Albertans who ushered the NDP into government this week did not vote for Thomas Mulcair by proxy. And a slim majority of the province's voters stuck with the right, either by supporting the Wildrose party or Jim Prentice's Tories.

The good news for Harper is that those voters can be expected to unite behind his federal Conservatives next fall.

The bad news is that they are not spread evenly across the province.

On Tuesday premier-elect Rachel Notley's New Democrats won more than 20 ridings with a majority of the vote. Many of those seats were won with 60 per cent support or more. In another half a dozen ridings, the combined score of the NDP and the Liberals added up to more than 50 per cent.

Based on those results, a sizeable contingent of Alberta voters does not come across as predisposed to support the federal Conservatives next fall.

Alberta's 87 provincial ridings work out to 34 federal ones. The provincial results suggest that Harper's Conservatives could be campaigning against a tide for change in more than a quarter of them, mostly in the Edmonton area.

Conventional wisdom has it that vote-splitting between the NDP and the Liberals will still pave the way for the re-election of most of Alberta's Conservative incumbents and that may well be right.

In the federal by-elections that have taken place in the province since Justin Trudeau became leader, the Liberals scored immensely better than Mulcair's New Democrats. If Notley's success translates into a bump in support for her federal cousins, the result could be a more divided anti-Harper vote, not only in Alberta, but from coast to coast to coast.

Still, in the big picture, there comes a point when two strong opposition parties, instead of eating each other's lunches, start taking sizeable bites out of different sections of the incumbent's pie.

That's what happened to the Parti Québécois last year.

So far, the Conservatives have focused their attacks on Trudeau. Polls have long suggested that the Liberals, not the NDP, are the main threat to a fourth Conservative victory next fall.

But, what if, in their efforts to weaken the Liberals, the Conservatives open themselves up for a kill at the hands of a conversely strengthened NDP?

As unlikely as the scenario of a Mulcair victory may seem, it is still less improbable than the advent of a majority NDP government in Alberta was thought to be only a few weeks ago.

It is a risk that Harper's Conservatives will now need to reassess.

At the same time, Trudeau is now challenging the Conservatives on their tax-cutting turf.

Two days after he unveiled two platform planks — a tax cut for middle-income earners and an enhanced child benefit targeted to middle-class families — Conservative spin doctors are still uncharacteristically struggling to come up with an effective response.

As unlikely as a Mulcair victory seems, it's less improbable than an NDP majority in Alberta was thought to be only a few weeks ago.

To date, they have not managed to do better than try to bluster their way out of a trap that finds them standing up for the more affluent section of the electorate. It does not help that the trap is largely of the government's own making.

Harper's re-election for a fourth mandate has always hinged on a divided opposition and post-Alberta election that remains a potentially winning condition for his party.

But a week that has seen both the hands of the Liberals and the NDP reinforced at Conservative expense is not one that bodes especially well for the game plan of the Prime Minister.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metro*view*

Deviants? Out-of-towners? No, Alberta has progressives, too

You can stop laughing now. Alberta politics have long been a joke to liberal, or even centrist, outsiders. You know, Alberta "politics," wink, wink.

But the NDP's incredible win means the joke is over.

We're now in the position of envying Alberta for more than its alcohol prices and legal drinking age. We're envying it for its democracy.

In the words of pollster Angus Reid — who's seen only Conservatives govern Alberta since he began polling in the 1970s — "change is indeed possible."

"This has big implications, and I think it's going to send a shiver down the spines of a lot politicians that think they can ride in on cynicism" and low voter turnout, he said.

The election brought in 58.1 per cent of voters, Elections Alberta said. That's much higher than voter turnout during the last two elections and a significant step above the average 50.9 per cent over the last six elections, according to media reports.

Albertan friends of mine say this election shows the nuances of Alberta politics, a phrase most out-of-province Canadians have never heard.

Callers to a morning radio show in Calgary spoke yesterday about how their vote mattered for the first time in 40 years, because their candidate got elected. Even some of those who voted Conservative spoke of their excitement about the variety of views given a voice.

"I know a lot of people that aren't rednecks, and maybe that wasn't previously reflected," said a friend of mine who hails from southern Alberta, heartland of the former Conservative dynasty.

A gay friend in Edmonton told me: "This is first time in my life where I haven't voted out of fear for what could happen to me."

In the last election, he voted for the PCs to stop the far-right Wildrose Party from winning. The PCs miscalculated the number of progressives like him that have kept them in power, he said.

David Shepherd, the new NDP MLA for Edmonton-Centre, grew up in the city, under that monotone provincial government. He told me he's "always believed there was a strong progressive voice."

They aren't the voices of deviants or out-of-towners. They're Albertans, too.

Now, the rest of us need to rethink that stereotype of Alberta as the nation's small town, isolated by right-wing ideas and traditional Christian values.

She's not just your Great Aunt Alberta, eating steak and drinking oil at every meal — though she's still got a lot of conservatism left.

I'd like to take that lady out for tea — the whole ideological spectrum of her — and thank her for reminding us what elections can do.

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Your essential daily news

Bigger than the Beatles: Study says hip hop more musically influential than the Fab Four

In bloom: Local for mom

MOTHER'S DAY

Ethical flowers are beautiful in more ways than one

Worker's rights and environmental sustainability are not necessarily subjects one thinks about on Mother's Day — but our floral preferences can have an impact on both.

"I think we should consider where our flowers come from the same way we do with food," says Calida Grymaloski, who along with her partner runs Bathtub Gardens, a two-acre flower farm that uses organic growing methods in Pemberton, B.C.

"Conventionally grown blooms are often bred to be packed and shipped so the focus is on maxing out the vase life rather than the beauty of the flower itself," says Grymaloski.

Latin American countries like Colombia, Ecuador — source of the majority of cut flowers in Canada — tend to have lax labour laws and health-and-safety codes, according to groups like the Ethical Trading Initiative and US Labor Education in the Americas Project.

As well, many cut flowers from developing countries are grown using toxic pesticides banned in Canada, and imported flowers are not tested for pesticide residues, according to the David Suzuki Foundation.

A medical survey by Oxfam Colombia showed that two-thirds of Colombia's flower workers had suffered from health problems related to pesticide exposure.

Cleomes, or Spider Flowers, grow at Bathtub Gardens, a two-acre farm in B.C. that uses organic growing methods.
COURTESY BATHTUB GARDENS

A Better Bouquet

But before you give up on bouquets altogether, consider getting mom a locally grown bouquet on Sunday.

Grown year-round in many parts of the country, Canadian cut flowers are typically grown without pesticides — even at farms that are not certified organic, according to Joseph Delarge of Eco Stems, an ethical and sustainable flower shop in Toronto.

And with our labour codes, workers are protected here.

He also maintains that where flowers are grown sustainably, their quality is better.

"Our customers find that these flowers actually last longer because we harvest them only days before delivery. Conventionally grown flowers of the same type will have been harvested sometimes three weeks before they end up in your vase."

Lest you think local is too limiting, there's a wide variety of grown-in-Canada blooms you can get this time of year.

Delarge says he has irises, tulips, roses, orchids, calla lilies, ranunculus and anemones in his fridge right now.

Grymaloski says they grow 80 varieties on their farm, with a more unique selection than those found on a conventional farm.

If you're worried about breaking the bank, she says their prices can be comparable to conventionally grown flowers, although the selection might be a little different.

"We typically avoid growing commodity crops like long-stemmed roses, baby's breath, carnations and even sunflowers which are grown as monocrops on large chunks of land with massive infrastructure," she says. "However we want our customers to receive fair prices and a quality product, so we focus on different species that are more suitable to small-scale production."

She says that if customers buy flowers directly through them via farmers markets, their Community Supported Agriculture program or their local farm stand, the prices would be comparable with a standard bouquet.

METRO LIFE

OTHER OPTIONS

Fairtrade

- If you can't stay away from those long-stem roses, you're probably looking at getting flowers grown outside of Canada.
- Look for Fairtrade or Veriflora-certified bouquets. These programs ensure the farms promote healthy workplaces and sustainable farming practices.

Native varieties

- Delarge and Grymaloski say cut flowers are almost never native, so if you are looking to get mom some indigenous flowers, potted plants are the way to go.
- Check with your local garden centre. Local park organizations and botanical gardens will also often have native plant sales in the spring.

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‘Tales of besties’ from Zooey’s BFF

NEW RELEASE

Rossi dishes on friendship and playing nice

Emily Laurence
Metro | New York City

When Sophia Rossi launched the women’s lifestyle site HelloGiggles back in 2011 with her friend Zooey Deschanel, media wasn’t exactly interested in women playing nice with each other.

“Shows like The Hills were based so much on fighting friendships,” Rossi says. “We wanted to show that your friends are your family.”

Four years later, the site has 16 million unique visitors per month and Rossi has a new book coming out, A Tale of Two Besties (out May 12), which celebrates female friendship. Eavesdrop on our girl talk below:

What inspired you to write specifically for teens?
I loved YA growing up. I read all the Sweet Valley High, The Baby-Sitters Club and Nancy Drew books. When HelloGiggles started, (Zooey and I) created a community of people who had youth as their interest and I wanted to extend that into a book.

Did you reread the Sweet Valley High books as an adult?
I did reread a few of them! For my birthday, Zooey collected all the Sweet Valley High and Baby-Sitters Club books on eBay for me, so we have them in our office. We’re constantly remembering stories from both series. Franchine Pascal, who wrote the Sweet Valley High series, actually blurbed my book, which is like a dream.

Did you go through what the two friends in the book go through — trying to stay friends while going to different high schools?
Yeah, a little bit. I grew up in Beverly Hills and there are four middle schools that go into one high school. It was really hard for me to be in such a big school. Some of my friends also went to a neighboring school that was more focused on the arts, so I had to learn how to make new friends while still trying to see my old friends.

It’s a huge deal when you’re a teen! What was Zooey like in high school?

I didn’t go to high school with her, but we had a lot of mutual friends. I think she was very much the same way she is now, from what I remember. She was super in tune to the things she cared about and really active in theater. She’s always been super smart and intuitive. And she’s always been herself. I think that’s why people really connect with her; whether you’re like her or not, you connect to the idea that she’s pure to her own efforts.

You guys were friends when you launched HelloGiggles together. Do you have any tips for going into business with a friend?
Yes. Celebrate your victories. I think we all get busy with our schedules, but it’s nice to stop and say, let’s get dinner and celebrate this. My other tip is having clear defining roles, especially at a startup.

Who are your best friends now?
I have a few besties, but I don’t like labelling them as that, because as Mindy Kaling says, “best friends” isn’t a term, it’s a tier.

So I have a bunch. I just had a sleepover with my bestie Charlotte Ronson last night and her twin sister Samantha. And Lauren Conrad and I became so close when I was a writer for The Hills; I really consider her a sister.

Author Sophia Rossi. ROSSI’S TUMBLR

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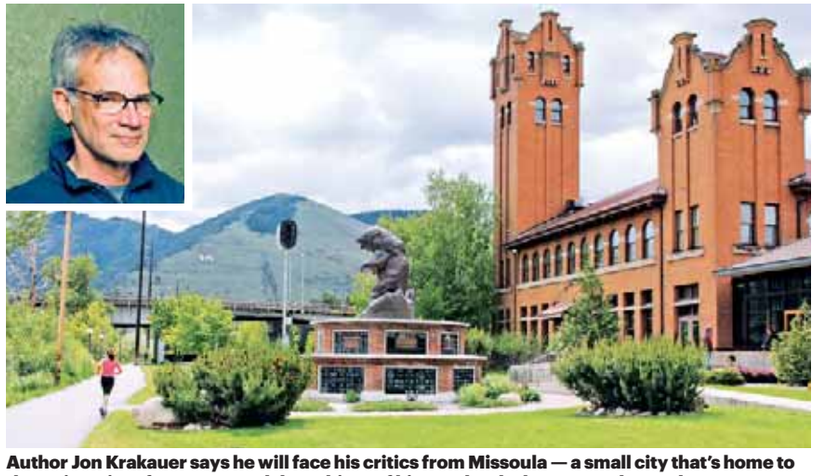
METROLINX

Author to face upset town

NONFICTION BESTSELLER

Jon Krakauer to visit place at heart of book on college rape



Author Jon Krakauer says he will face his critics from Missoula — a small city that's home to the University of Montana and the subject of his new book about sexual assault on campus.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE/INSET: GETTY IMAGES FILE

Bestselling author Jon Krakauer is making one public appearance to promote his latest work, Missoula: Rape and the Justice System in a College Town. It's in the titular town, where he will face angry critics who say his decision to focus on the small Montana city is unfair.

Krakauer said Tuesday he wanted to give those critics the chance to confront him about the book.

"It took me by surprise that people were so upset by the title," Krakauer told The Associated Press. "It seemed like a perfect example of a problem that exists nationwide."

"I never meant to hold Missoula up as the worst case. It's not," he added.

The book, which ranks fourth on the New York Times hardcover nonfiction bestseller list, uses the city to illustrate what Krakauer calls a nationwide problem faced by rape victims to persuade police and prosecutors to pursue their cases.

The book focuses on several University of Montana women who were assaulted between 2010 and 2012, the same period covered in a U.S. Department of Justice investigation into whether Missoula and university officials mishandled rape reports. The federal inquiry led to reforms in how the university and city respond to sexual assaults.

> **I never meant to hold Missoula up as the worst case. It's not**
> Jon Krakauer

Critics have denounced Krakauer, the author of the bestselling books Into Thin Air and Into the Wild, for turning the spotlight on Missoula and accuse him of reopening wounds inflicted by the Justice Department investigation. Others criticize the book as a one-sided account that doesn't include the voices of the prosecutors he depicts as failing the rape victims.

Krakauer said he tried to get comment from Missoula County Attorney Kirsten Pabst, but he stopped when her attorney threatened him with a lawsuit. He said he would welcome Pabst and others from the county attorney's office to the forum, saying he has questions he would like to ask them.

Pabst did not return a call from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Krakauer said he did not know what kind of reception to expect in Missoula but that he hoped the forum would "clear the air."

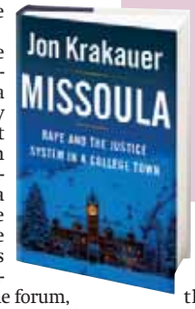
"I get it. Missoula takes a lot of pride in the town — as Missoulians should — and this book was seen as an attack on the integrity of the town, which it is not," Krakauer said.

His focus on the town came after he started following rape cases across the nation, the author said. He decided that the subject could be turned into a book after travelling to Montana to hear the impressive testimony of one of the victims he profiles, he said.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOOK NOTES

Clearing the air

The forum, organized by Fact and Fiction Bookstore owner Barbara Theroux, will consist of University of Montana School of Journalism Dean Larry Abramson interviewing Krakauer and asking him questions submitted by the public in advance. "I think if people feel a little less uncomfortable about the fact that this book was dropped on the town, and at least he came to explain himself, that would be a worthwhile goal to me," Abramson said.



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Like mother, like daughter

FAMILY BUSINESS

Young actress Shailyn Pierre Dixon looks to her mom for inspiration

Vawn Himmelsbach
Metro | Life

Shailyn Pierre Dixon just tried out for her school's softball team and she's pretty sure she made the cut. But it's hard to tell if she's more excited about playing softball or finding out she's just been nominated for a Golden Maple Award as newcomer of the year in a TV series broadcast in the U.S.

At 11 years old, Shailyn already has some serious acting cred under her belt, starring as the young Aminata in The Book of Negroes and joining the cast of Netflix's first Canadian co-production Between — a post-apocalyptic Lord of the Flies — that premieres May 21.

But her mom wants to make sure she still gets to be a kid. The Caledon, Ont.-based actress, writer and producer Christina Dixon understands "movie land," but she also knows what it's like to be a mom.

Between, for example, involved a rather scary cast member: a tiger.

"Shailyn and I are both adrenalin junkies," says Dixon. So when Shailyn read the script for Between, she was thrilled to find out she'd be working with a tiger.

"Part of me was as excited and as stoked about it, and the mother in me was like, 'Is this tiger going to eat my child?'"

But, she adds, Shailyn is fearless. "I wasn't going to put any of my fear on her if she didn't have any, so I bit my tongue."

Watching Shailyn on screen — especially with the roles she's chosen to play — can be challenging as a mother.

"Shailyn is an incredibly happy person (and) she's playing these roles where she's the absolute opposite of that — she's depressed and oppressed and she's being degraded," says Dixon. "It was really hard to watch at times."

Shailyn didn't study acting. And she doesn't really know how she taps into these complex characters.

"I help with her auditions and coach her but she just jumped in," says Dixon.

"Her first movie was (Hollywood blockbuster) The Best Man Holiday — that's how Shailyn does things in life. … The opportunities she's had are things people wait a lifetime for, but it's not something that's fallen into her lap. She's worked for it."

The challenge for Dixon is finding a way to help her daughter accomplish her dreams, while preserving her childhood — and balancing that with her own career.

When they found out Shailyn landed the part in The Book of Negroes, they had less than 48 hours before they had to be on a plane to Cape Town.

The first call Dixon made was to her mother, who asked what she could do to help.

"Having that kind of support system makes it possible," says Dixon. "You can't do it by yourself."

> **Obviously she's my mom, but she's also my best friend**
> Shailyn on her mom Christina Dixon

Shailyn has already garnered a reputation for professionalism, which she attributes to her mom.

"Obviously she's my mom," she says, "but she's also my best friend and she inspires me all the time."

While Dixon plays multiple roles in Shailyn's life, she wants to avoid being a "momager," a word Shailyn doesn't quite understand. When Dixon tries to explain the word's negative connotations, Shailyn decides to come up with a new word, one that encompasses Dixon's role as a mom, manager and actress: momertress.

"We'll keep working on that," laughs Dixon. "I love that you look at the bright side, baby."

For Christina Dixon and her daughter Shailyn, acting runs in the family. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

With Dad Bods, squishy is sexy

CONCEPT TAKES OFF

Beer bellies, not biceps, the newest male physique trend

Jason Segel stripped down and showed off his Dad Bod in 2008's Forgetting Sarah Marshall. Leonardo DiCaprio is also rocking the Dad Bod these days. HANDOUT; INSET: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What do Simon Cowell, Jason Segel and Leonardo DiCaprio all have in common (apart from global fame and fortune)? They all boast a "Dad Bod."

A what-bod, you cry? Well, allow us to explain: The Dad Bod is the latest trend for the male physique.

Where once women craved six-packs that could grate cheese and biceps the size of tree trunks, now a cuddly torso and gentle paunch is all that's required, according to a blog post written by U.S. student Mackenzie Pearson that has since gone viral.

In her post, Mackenzie describes the Dad Bod as "a nice balance between a beer gut and working out." She continues: "The dad bod says, 'I go to the gym occasionally, but I also drink heavily on the weekends and enjoy eating eight slices of pizza at a time.' It's not an overweight guy, but it isn't one with washboard abs, either."

Mackenzie argues that the physique is a hit with women because it is non-threatening, comfortable to cuddle up to and honest in the sense that it probably won't undergo any drastic transformation within the next 20 years (note: you don't have to be a father to have a Dad Bod; in fact it is perfectly acceptable to have one when you're still in your 20s). "While we all love a sculpted guy, there is just something about the dad bod that makes boys seem more human, natural, and attractive," she states.

The concept was an immediate hit with nicely squishy men everywhere, who took to Instagram without delay to show off their less-than-toned torsos and chunky arms. The account "CollegeDadBods" has been quietly gaining momentum since the beginning of this year and has now become a fully-fledged homage to regular guys in all their glory.

The positive reaction to this newfound appreciation for curvy men has reminded us all that guys, too, face an attimes unrealistic social pressure to be buff and trim. But where will the trend take us next? Could the "Mom Bod" be the lusted-after shape for 2015? Time will tell. AFP

> **"The dad bod says, 'I go to the gym occasionally, but I also drink heavily on the weekends and enjoy eating eight slices of pizza at a time.'**
>
> Mackenzie Pearson in a blog post that has gone viral

MATERNAL

Norway tops list of best countries to be a mother

Norway ranks as the world's best place to be a mother, well ahead of the United States, which dropped to the 33rd spot in the annual scorecard released by Save the Children on Monday.

Somalia is the worst place, just below the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic.

Save the Children released its 16th annual Mothers' Index, which rates 179 countries based on five indicators related to maternal health, education, income levels and the status of women.

Scandinavian countries have consistently taken the first spots in the Mothers' Index, with Finland earning the top spot last year. AFP

20

Canada took the 20th spot on the index.

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BODY IMAGE

Zooey won't be 'sexy new mom in bikini'

New Girl star Zooey Deschanel is eager to temper expectations for what she'll be doing after she gives birth to her first child, due later this year.

"Haven't we all seen those pictures of a sexy new mom in a bikini after one month? I will not be that person," she tells Cosmopolitan.

"I've always gone my own course and never been someone who had the need to be super skinny. I like a healthy look. I don't buy into that skinny-is-better mentality. I just eat healthy and work out and don't worry about my weight too much. Actresses aren't models, and most of them never wanted to be."

It's fascinating how she can simultaneously inspire and aggravate other women, no? NED EHRBAR/METRO

BIRTHDAY GET-UP

Adele celebrates 27th as George Michael

Adele as her "hero." TWITTER

It's Adele's party, and she'll dress up like Faith-era George Michael if she wants to.

The Skyfall singer posted a photo of herself gussied up as Michael for her 27th birthday, complete with aviator glasses and excessive stubble.

"Thank you for the birthday wishes. I had a wonderful time," she writes. "I was my hero."

To be fair, there are a lot worse music icons she could emulate heading into the ever-so-ominous — for musicians, at least — age of 27. As far as we know, Michael's 27th year was rather uneventful. But it is kind of surprising that he would be Adele's hero, no? NED EHRBAR/METRO

KIND WORDS FOR BIEBER ... FOR LOHAN, NOT SO MUCH

Lady Gaga's life advice to Beebs

Justin Bieber has found a surprising ally in Lady Gaga. The two pop stars spent some time together at the Met Gala earlier this week and took a few selfies — one of which Gaga herself posted recently along with a lengthy caption coming to the troubled Canadian wunderkind's defence.

Selfie at Met Gala. INSTAGRAM/LADYGAGA

"He really has a sweetness to him," she writes. "He grew up in front of the whole world. I reminded him to not get bothered. Because at the end of the day, he's the boss, and life isn't always roses. Lots of thorns."

LiLo community service update

Today marks the day Lindsay Lohan has to check in with the court and show that she's making progress on those pesky 125 hours of community service she was ordered to finish by May 28, and word is she's still got a long way to go.

"Lindsay has hardly made a dent in the court-ordered 125 hours of community service. It's an extremely unimpressive number so far — less than 20 hours total," a source tells Radar Online. NED EHRBAR/METRO

Davis's film festival bets on diversity

Geena Davis has launched a film festival in Arkansas focused on women and diversity. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

FIGHTING GENDER BIAS

Women-focused event promises distribution for winning entries

With help from a slew of corporate sponsors, Geena Davis and filmmakers focused on women and diversity have taken over Bentonville, Ark., a city of 40,000 best known as Wal-Mart's home base.

While it's not the first film festival to specialize in diversity, Davis said it's the only film competition to promise theatrical releases for winning entries.

"It's unheard of in the world, actually," the Oscar winner said in a telephone interview before opening the festival Tuesday.

"It's the only festival offering distribution across theatrical, digital and on TV and on DVD ... That's just part of our push to show how commercial diverse films can be."

About 75 films will be screened over the four-day festival, which will also include panel discussions and a celebratory A League of Their Own baseball game, featuring appearances by Rosie O'Donnell and two original members of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League.

Davis plans to expand the festival beyond Bentonville to include educational outreach and events throughout the year. Founder of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media in 2007, the actress plans to bring the research amassed by her organization to film schools and colleges around the country.

"It's very important to educate the next generation of content creators before they even start their professional careers," she said. "Once it's brought to (filmmakers') attention, once they hear the numbers, they're just stunned and horrified ... how much gender bias there is and lack of diversity." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

17%

Research funded by Davis's institute and conducted by the University of Southern California found that women — who constitute more than half of the U.S. population — typically comprise just 17 per cent of on-screen crowd scenes.

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metro

Mother's Day Gift Guide

Thursday, May 7, 2015

Whether it's directly or in her actions, your mother has probably told you what she would like or need this Mother's Day. SHUTTERSTOCK

It's the thought that really counts

Astrid Van Den Broek
For Metro

When it comes to Mother's Day, the cliché, 'it's the thought that counts,' really does ring true.

"People need to remember that Mother's Day is not about the gifts," said Alexandria Durrell, the mommy blogger behind idontblog.ca. "It's about thanking moms for all they do for us. It's a tough slog being a mom. And when your kids are grown, it's touching for them to recognize just how hard it was once upon a time. A little thanks goes a long way."

So, if it's the thought that matters, how do we make mom feel truly special for her big day? Here are five ways to do it.

1 LISTEN TO MOM. Chances are she has dropped hints about what she wants, or at least what she would love to have. "She will tell you if you ask," said Yvonne Marcus, the blogger behind thedahliascene.com. "Whether it's directly or in her actions, she's telling you all year long what she'd like or need."

2 GIVE HER SELF-CARE. "Is mom tired?" Durrell said. "Does she need some time alone? Does she ever pamper herself? Answer those questions and you'll find the perfect gift for your perfect mom."

3 HONOUR YOUR CONNECTION. This year Marcus became a new mom and is asking for a nameplate necklace for herself. "It commemorates the new relationship between me and my son, and it always keeps him with me," she said.

4 GIVE HER TIME. "A full day where I'm not responsible for anything would be amazing," Durrell said. You could accessorize mom's free day with a spa gift certificate to use that day, another certificate for a dinner out and even a book she can begin to read.

5 GET CREATIVE. "Think outside of the box when it comes to presents," Marcus said. "If she enjoys animals, then maybe buy her a zoo membership instead of an item. It'll help create memories for her with her kids that they can cherish for years. Or even make her animal-shaped pancakes for breakfast or something equally simple but that will stir conversation."

MAKING A FUSS OVER MOM

According to a recent survey from retailmenot.ca, Canadians make a bigger fuss over Mother's Day than Father's Day. The online survey of more than 1,500 people reports that 48 per cent of respondents admit to spending more money on Mother's Day than Father's Day. And 64 per cent of respondents confess to getting more creative with giving gifts on Mother's Day than Father's Day.

Make this Mother's Day bright and special for moms and moms-to-be. SHUTTERSTOCK

Treasure special moments with moms-to-be

Sunday is a special time to celebrate and honour the moms-to-be in your life.

As expectant moms tirelessly plan, nurture and care for their developing baby, make this Mother's Day truly bright and special with a thoughtful gift and some pampering.

PHOTO SHOOT

While at times it may feel as though pregnancy lasts forever, once a new mom holds her baby for the very first time, the months leading up to that special moment will actually seem fleeting. Treasure this special time by hiring a professional maternity photographer to capture mom in her full, baby-belly glory.

PRENATAL MASSAGE

A soothing, tailor-made massage offers the ultimate in relaxation, and provides major health benefits. "Not only does it reduce pain, muscle cramps, but it also increases blood flow which brings more oxygen and nutrition to all of the tissues in the body," said Kailee Kline, founder of Toronto-based Healthwinds Spa.

PUT HER FEET UP

Arrange a mani-pedi at her favourite nail spa, but because nail polish often contains harsh chemicals, choose a salon that takes a holistic or non-toxic approach. This little bit of personal time will leave her feeling pampered and polished, while nourishing dry, perhaps swollen, feet.

LIFE STORY

Create a photo album celebrating some of your most memorable moments together. There are plenty of options to choose from, including iPhoto, Shutterfly, Snapfish, or buy an album and print pictures at home. Make sure you include a heartfelt dedication.

TANYA ENBERG/FOR METRO

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Making life a little easier

Mike Yawney
For Metro

Flowers may be beautiful and brunch may be delicious, but if you want a gift that mom will use again and again you have to think outside the box. Technology is playing a bigger role in our lives than ever before. Here are some of the best high-tech gifts you can give mom this Mother's Day.

KOBO GLO HD — $129.99
Help mom relax and escape the daily grind by escaping with a great book. This latest eReader from Kobo is not only thin and light, it offers an incredible high-definition display, with text so clear it's like reading a paperback. The anti-glare screen is ideal for reading in direct sunlight while the illuminated screen makes it perfect for reading in the dark. A single charge can last up to two months.

PIGEON FRAME — $119
Share precious memories with mom year-round with this unique digital photo frame. Designed in Canada, this 10-inch frame connects to the Internet, allowing family members to upload photos and videos right to the frame from anywhere in the world. A built-in motion sensor automatically turns off the display when no one is present to save power.

AERVANA — $99.98 US
The world's first electric wine aerator. Not only will it improve the flavour profile of mom's favourite wine, it does so without the mess of traditional aerators. Aervana is designed to leave wine sediment on the bottom so it doesn't end up in your glass.

EVERPURSE — $249 US
A stylish way to recharge smartphones on the go. When mom slips her smartphone inside Everpurse, it will begin to recharge — no cables and cords. The purse itself charges overnight when placed on a special charging matt so it's ready to go when she is.

ANOVA — $179 US
A tool that can turn any mom into a professional chef. The Anova precision cooker creates a warm water bath to gently cook meat and other foods, sealing in natural juices and flavour. This technique is used by top chefs around the globe. Just don't ask your mom to use her gift on Mother's Day. After all, you should be the one cooking.

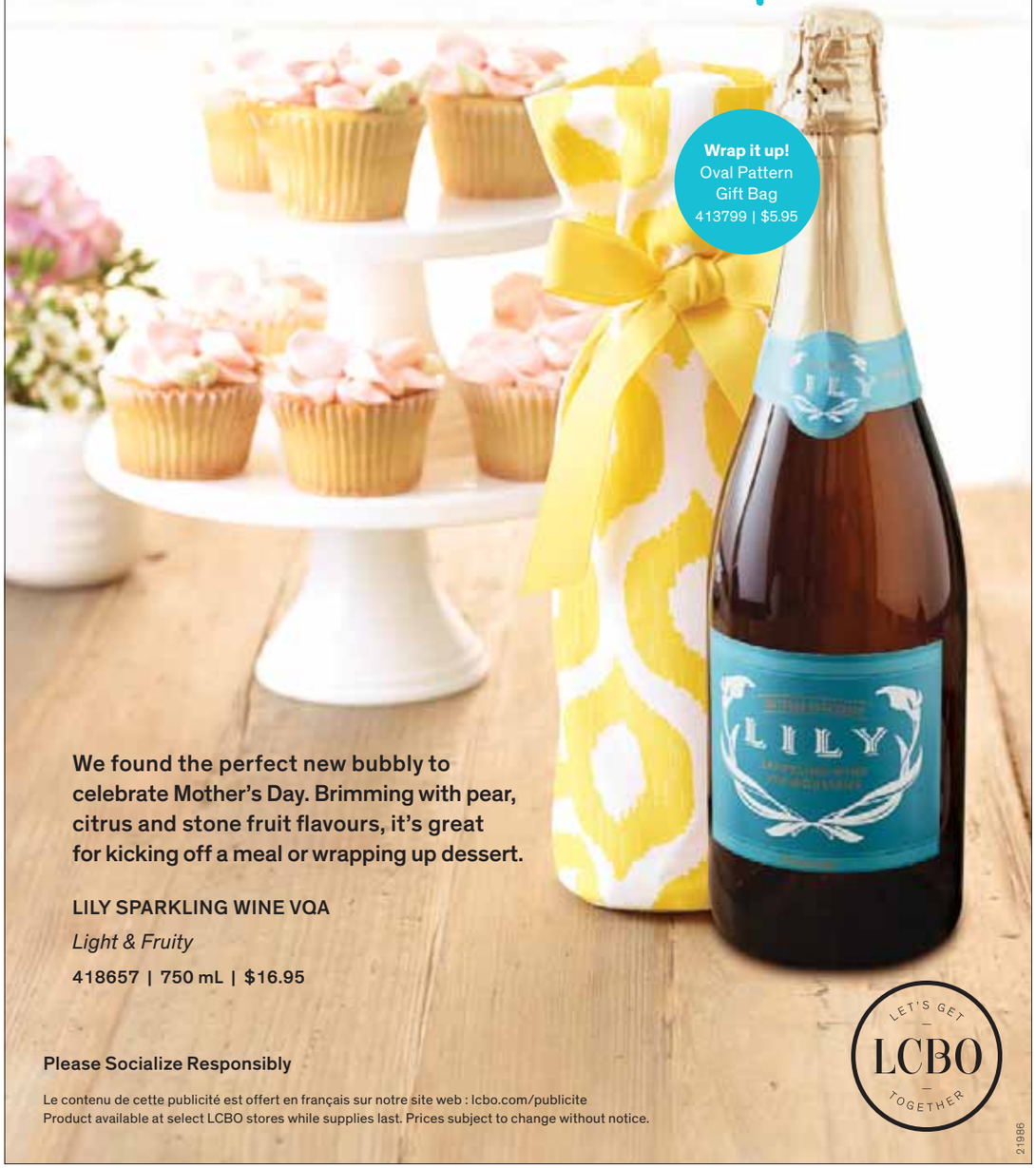
RINGLY — $195 US AND UP
A clever ring that ensures mom will never miss another text, email or phone call again. The 18-karat gold-plated ring features four vibration patterns along with a light-up indicator, letting her know when someone is trying to get a hold of her. Available in variety of gemstones.

APPLE WATCH — $449 AND UP
A fashion-forward timepiece with thousands of uses. Read incoming texts, email or receive phone calls without ever touching your iPhone. The built-in heart rate monitor will help mom reach her fitness goals while offering encouragement along the way. If that's not enough, there are thousands of apps that will let her do anything from controlling the lights in her home to managing her personal finances right on her wrist.

PARROT FLOWER POWER — $79.95
This unique sensor monitors houseplants, sending real-time analytics to your iPhone. Parrot Flower Power knows if the room temperature is ideal and whether your plant is receiving enough light, moisture and fertilizer. If conditions aren't right, your mom will be sent a notification on her iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch.

Clockwise, from top left, Everpurse — $249 US, Anova — $179 US, Apple Watch — $449 and up, Ringly — $195 US and up, and Kobo Glo HD — $129.99.

Make Mother's Day sparkle.



We found the perfect new bubbly to celebrate Mother's Day. Brimming with pear, citrus and stone fruit flavours, it's great for kicking off a meal or wrapping up dessert.

LILY SPARKLING WINE VQA
Light & Fruity
418657 | 750 mL | $16.95

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SPENDING A PERFECT DAY WITH MOM

We asked moms how they would like to spend Mother's Day and what gifts they definitely would not like to receive. Their answers may surprise you.

"I am hoping to spend the day outside in the garden with my family. The worst gift would be an extended family dinner where my kids were expected to stay sitting and I was in charge of keeping them there."

Laura Watt,
Toronto

"My dream Mother's Day would be a tea party in my garden with my daughters-in-law and the grandchildren. While any gift is appreciated, dead, stinky sea stars from the grandkids end up in the compost fairly quickly."

Sandy Brunham,
Southern Gulf Islands, B.C.

"The best gift would be a family photo shoot in a natural environment — priceless to me. The worst gift would be something for the kitchen. Definitely not a baking item — I don't bake."

Christine Giovis,
Toronto

"I would sleep in, go to yoga, meet friends for coffee, read, and then meet up with my husband and daughter, go to a park and out for dinner. I wouldn't want to receive anything meant to clean the house, except someone who would actually clean the house."

Sarah Anderson,
Moncton, N.B.

"I'm taking the girls to Niagara Falls for boat rides, water parks and butterfly gardens. I really don't want a plant — every year seems to involve some sad little plant from Loblaws."

Caitlin O'Donovan
Toronto

DIY GIFTS

According to experts in the do-it-yourself crafting industry, you will make the most impact with your gift this Mother's Day by offering mom something handmade.

"Showing your love and appreciation for mom doesn't have to be expensive," said Shelli Gardner, CEO and co-founder of crafting company Stampin' Up! "The gift with the greatest impact, the one that shows you truly want your mom to feel special, is the one you make yourself."

A special scrapbook
Warm her heart by making a timeline of all your treasured moments throughout the years.

A customized card
Forego the predictable preprinted Mother's Day card in favour of a decorative handmade creation that can itself become a beautiful gift. Select colour card stock, themed stamps, then embellish with accents and ink spritzing to create just the desired colour and look.

News Canada

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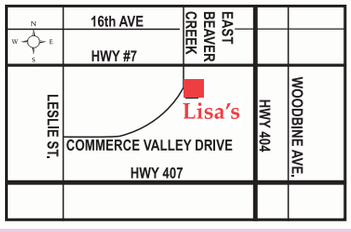

WHEN

April 2015

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May 2015

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Help mom celebrate Mother's Day with gifts that will help her relax. SHUTTERSTOCK

Soothing solutions

Janine Falcon
For Metro

Time and again we turn to mom for advice, for help and comfort.

This Mother's Day, why not give back in the same way? Celebrate your No. 1 lady by helping her take time and slow down.

NOVEL TEA

Tetley's delicious new Signature Collection teas, charming Shop for Hope mugs (net proceeds to the Canadian Women's Foundation) and a good book equals quality time for mom. Tea, from $3.99, available at grocery stores; mugs, $4.99 each, available at Winners; Lost & Found by Brooke Davis, 2015, Penguin Random House Canada, $22.95 paperback, available at Indigo Books.

BETTER THAN FLOWERS

Treat mom to a bouquet she can carry all season — includes three flattering new shades of Burt's Bees Lip Crayons. Net proceeds to Pollinator Partnership Canada to help bees. Limited-edition H Project x Ela x Burt's Bees Editor's Pouch, $50, available at Holt Renfrew.

SOFT TOUCH

French favourite Nuxe Huile Prodigieuse is adored for its fragrant, conditioning cocktail of botanical oils, non-greasy texture, and the radiance it bestows on face, body and hair. Limited-edition black bottle, $45, available at Hudson's Bay, Shoppers Drug Mart, Jean Coutu and Murale.

NIGHT MAGIC

Mom can enjoy at-home medi-spa efficiency with a gentle new leave-on peel she will apply at bedtime for a brighter, smoother complexion in the morning. Philosophy The Microdelivery Peel, $89, available at Hudson's Bay, Sephora, and Shoppers Drug Mart.

TECH TIME

This high-tech, hand-held Korean home spa unit employs warmth, micro-vibration, micro-currents, and LED therapy to give mom's skin a more toned, instantly-lifted effect. Racinne Lady S, $199, available at racinne.ca.

GOOD CLEAN FUN

Mom will get a daily good morning grin out of this fruity body cleanser with a dash of silver lustre for sheen. Also available in a Love You Mom gift set. Lush Yummy Mummy Shower Gel, from $9.95, available at Lush boutiques, lush.ca.

SPOTLIGHT

Treat mom to showpiece make-up she might not buy for herself. Chanel's new, limited edition, golden-bronze illuminator gives a range of complexions (including very fair) a natural-looking glow. Chanel Lumière d'Eté, $76, available at Chanel boutiques, Hudson's Bay, Holt Renfrew and Murale.

HELPING HANDS

A luxury hand cream plus an electric nail tool that buffs and polishes bare nail surfaces to a high gloss finish will give mom beautifully groomed hands in moments, no manicure required. Nest Passiflora Luxurious Hand Cream, $11, available at Sephora; Emjoi Micro Nail, $59.99, available at Shoppers Drug Mart and micronail.ca.

DESIGNER BEAUTY

If mom is into makeup, fashion and colour, the vibrant hues in the new summer collaboration between Nars and designer Christopher Kane are ideal. Neon-eutral — Christopher Kane for Nars collection, from $29, available at Hudson's Bay, Holt Renfrew, Murale, and narscosmetics.com.

BOTTLED BOUQUET

Mom's perfume is one of those lovely lifelong scent memories that keeps her near when you are far away. Build her fragrance wardrobe with special, display worthy selections. Jo Malone Nectarine Blossom & Honey Cologne, $135, available at Holt Renfrew and Nordstrom.

metro HOME
Your essential daily news

Only 4 per cent of Canadians check reviews before hiring a contractor: HomeStars survey

Developers focus on amenities

CONDOS

What's on offer can make or break a purchase

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister

With today's smaller condos, every square inch counts. That's why savvy condo hunters are more discerning about the amenities on offer, often toting a checklist of must-have facilities. In a competitive condo marketplace, the right amenities can make the difference when it comes to closing a sale.

Common area amenities are an extension of your living space and developers are going full-out to deliver innovative new facilities to attract buyers.

Some condos offer a long list of tantalizing features. Other condos, meh, not so much.

For example, having a well-equipped fitness centre in-house means you can give up your costly and inconvenient health club or yoga studio memberships.

Imagine dialling in your choice of court from a selection of more than a dozen different sports.

In a new development by Ghods Builders at 5959 Yonge St., the fitness area will feature a high-tech adaptive playing surface with adjustable lines — coloured LED lights mark out the floor and walls for each sport.

Another popular trend is indoor basketball courts. The Daniels Corporation has them at Cinema Tower, Limelight Condominiums in Mississauga and One Park Place South in Regent Park.

The court walls are glassed-in floor to ceiling and are lit up at night.

Daniels' spokeswoman Megan Aird says the company goes all out to come up with innovative ideas, such as basketball courts, rock-climbing walls and gardening plots, "To strengthen the physical and social fabric of our communities."

> **Having great entertainment options means you can get away with having a smaller suite**

Speaking of gardening plots, now condo downsizers don't have to give up their green-thumb pursuits, as more and more condos are offering outdoor, communal gardening plots and rooftop allotments.

Some even offer an indoor potting shed to prepare plants for your balcony.

As far as entertaining goes, almost all condos now offer as standard, fully decked-out catering kitchens, bar areas, outdoor barbecues with cabanas and permanent outdoor living room-like seating. Having great entertainment options in-house means you can get away with a smaller suite.

One novel condo lounge of note spans two buildings at the 29-storey level. Concord Adex built a 130-foot long, two-storey SkyBridge that connects the two Parade towers at its CityPlace condo campus near Spadina and Lake Shore.

It features an elegant common amenity bar and lounge with a glass floor that all Parade residents are welcome to enjoy. It offers a truly unique, simultaneous view of the Toronto skyline on the north side and Lake Ontario to the south.

The SkyBridge that connects the two Parade towers at CityPlace condo campus near Spadina and Lake Shore in Toronto houses an elevated bar and lounge. DUNCAN MCALLISTER/FOR METRO

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What they're a$king

The 'average' Canadian home is a midsize, detached house with three to four bedrooms, in and around the city core. Single-family homes are in demand in Toronto and Vancouver. Prices reflect the limited inventory. **Duncan McAllister** FOR METRO

$400,000

Edmonton

Sitting on a large corner lot in the desirable Grovenor community, this house includes a landscaped and fenced yard, and oversized, double detached garage. There's a family room, a fourth bedroom in the basement, and an enclosed sunroom. The backyard includes a natural gas barbecue. Listing agent is Sean Nykolyshyn with Liv Real Estate, 780-298-6956.

$849,000

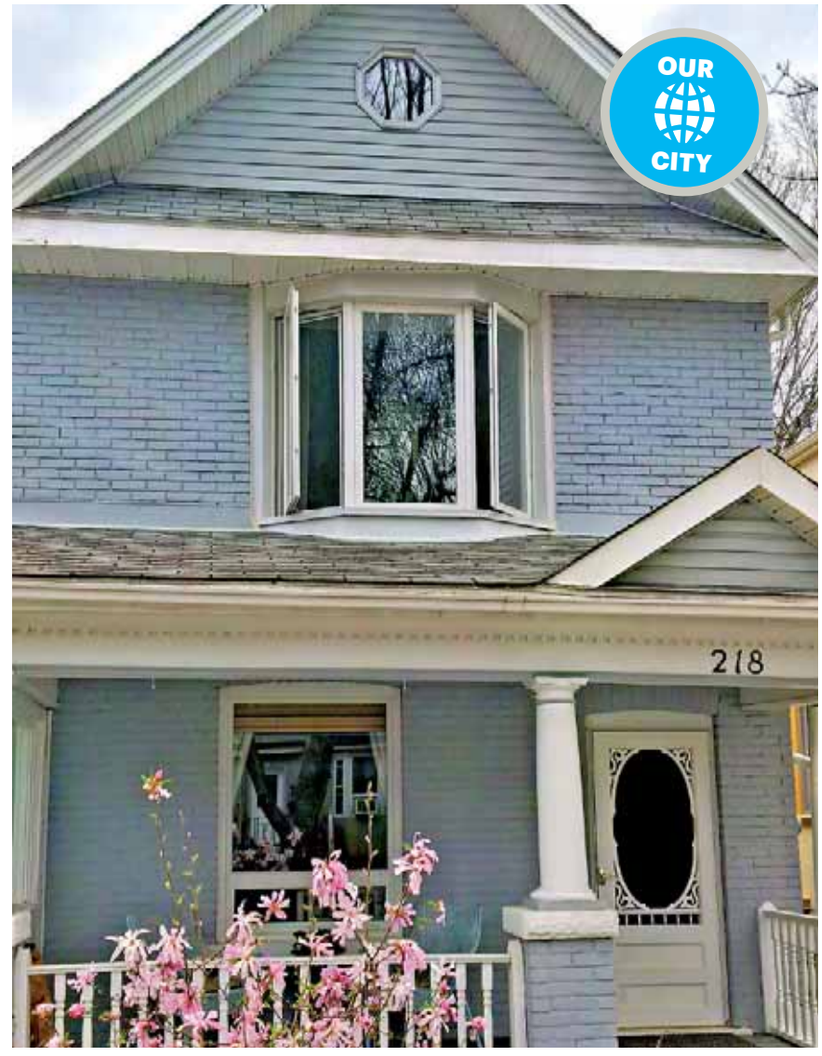
Calgary

In the midst of the Kensington shopping district, this historic, three-bedroom, detached house has an entry that leads into a spacious living room and dining room. The renovated kitchen features traditional cream cabinetry and stainless-steel appliances. Listing agent Susan Harrigan is a sales representative for Homelife Cityscape Real Estate, 403-669-9112.

$449,900

Winnipeg

Right in the heart of Winnipeg, in the Bridgewater Forest neighbourhood, this three-bedroom detached home features a large master bedroom with large windows, a four-piece ensuite bathroom and a large walk-in closet. The house is on a sizeable lot, ideal for a growing family. Listing agent Chris Kenny is a sales representative with Re/Max Professionals, 204-899-4858.



$799,900

Toronto

The Leslieville neighbourhood is a hot market. For sale there is a renovated, three-bedroom, three-bathroom detached home. The century home has been updated with high ceilings, crown mouldings and Brazilian hardwood. The lot includes an insulated double car garage that can be used as a studio or coach house or studio. Listing agent Alex J. Wilson is with Re/Max Condos Plus, 416-996-5181.

$982,000

Vancouver

This four-bedroom ranch-style home in Calverhall is 15 minutes from downtown. It was listed for $1,050,000 and sold at press time for $982,000. The house has a living area of 2,590 sq. ft. and sits on a 50-foot lot that includes a detached garage with workshop. The house also features great views of the city. Listing agent is Cathy Graham with Royal LePage Sussex, 604-984-9711.

$499,900

Ottawa

This two-bedroom, two-bathroom detached urban home is in the heart of Westboro. The house sits on a 69-foot x 66-foot lot. Updates include a new roof, new windows, a renovated kitchen and bathrooms, new flooring and waterproofed foundation. "A rare find indeed," says listing agent Kerry Millican, who is a sales representative with Royal Lepage Team Realty, 613-290-2990.

$349,900

Halifax

Here's a bright and airy, three-bedroom house at 11 Redwood Ave., nestled in the Fleming Heights neighbourhood. The home features vaulted ceilings, a skylight and a private park-like backyard. It's walking distance from historic Dingle Tower, Fleming Park and minutes to Bayer's Lake shopping district. Listing agent Thomas Bagogloo is from the Bagogloo Team, RE/MAX nova, 902-830-9006.

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ADVICE

Landlords can get HST rebates, too

LEGAL MATTERS

Jeffrey Cowan

Q: I read your column last week about eligibility for an HST rebate on new homes in Canada. Basically, I or a close family member must move into the property in order to be a candidate for this program.

I have bought a condo for investment purposes and find it somewhat unfair that the government would credit people who are buying for themselves or their family when I am buying and providing a necessary rental property for people that aren't in a position to buy a condo. This doesn't make sense to me.

A: Not to worry. The government has a program for you also. It is the HST/GST rental rebate program. After you purchase the property, at which time you have to pay the builder the rebate amount, you can then rent the property out and eventually claim back the HST you paid. As I understand the program, if you purchase a residential property, pay the appropriate tax at the time of closing and then rent it to a tenant for a period of a year (with proof of this), you can apply to obtain a rebate of the HST/GST you had to pay the developer at the time of closing. So in fact, the government is acknowledging your contribution to the housing market; just a year of so after the fact. Read more about the Residential Rental Property Rebate at www.cra-arc.gc.ca.

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PHANTOM
DEVELOPMENTS

Tree House shows off geometry

Project overview

The award-winning 5468796 architects have designed a new lowrise townhome project in the emerging Birch Cliff neighbourhood of Toronto. The project will consist of three blocks of towns with a rhythmic, staggered geometry of stacked cells.

Building amenities

The multi-level units will feature private balconies and terraces. There is a shared courtyard between blocks as well as private rooftop terraces and gardens. The building will offer secure underground parking, a bicycle storage room and lockers.

Location and transit

The building is situated in Toronto's east end in a residential enclave close to transit and services. Residents will have access to the Gerrard East TTC bus route and nearby Victoria Park subway station and the Danforth GO rail station.

In the neighbourhood

There's a wide range of local amenities, with restaurants and services along the Danforth. The building is conveniently located across from a mini-mall and close to Shopper's World. Lots of green spaces are nearby, including the Dentonia golf course and the Scarborough Bluffs waterfront park.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

What: The Tree House
Builder: Symmetry Developments, Engine Developments and Fortress Real Developments
Architect: 5468796 Architecture
Interiors: DK Studio
Location: 2535 Gerrard St. E. at Victoria Park
Sizes: From 935 sq. ft. to 1,325 sq. ft.
Price: From low $400,000s
Suites: Two-bedroom lofts, two- and three-bedroom stacks, and three-bedroom townhouses
Status: Registration phase
Occupancy: 2017
Sales Centre: 2535 Gerrard St. E.
Phone: 647-560-4454
Website: treehousetowns.com

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REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 LIBERTY VILLAGE

Grand opening: Special offers continue at Liberty Central by the Lake 2, a new Liberty Village condominium by CanAlfa on East Liberty Street. Visit the sales centre at 80 Lynn Williams St.

CONTACT: 905-537-0047, LIVEINLIBERTY.COM

2 YORKVILLE

Sales event: No. 1 Yorkville, a new luxury condominium in Yorkville, is offering limited-time sales incentives on one-bedroom units. Check out the presentation lounge at 162 Cumberland St.

CONTACT: 416-519-2911, 1YORKVILLE.CA

3 UPPER BEACHES

Open house: Several units of newly built townhomes in the Upper Beaches will be shown. To view them, head over to 2320 Gerrard St. E., this Saturday and Sunday, from 1-5 p.m.

CONTACT: STEVEN SANTOS SILVA, 855-272-9898

Investing in transit benefits residents

Bryan Tuckey

It has been pleasing to read that investing in new municipal infrastructure is a significant part of the recently released provincial budget. Infrastructure is a key component in creating quality, complete communities for our growing population.

What has jumped out the most is the dedication of $1.6 billion to a brand new LRT line in Peel Region, which is expected to connect two growing cities, Brampton and Mississauga, and help fuel investment and growth within surrounding communities.

Congratulations to the province for taking this initial step toward building investment-ready communities. Now it's time to turn that step into a leap — working with municipalities to support this initiative with appropriate planning policies.

In order to maximize efficiency in transit investment, it is important to ensure appropriate density is designated along these transit corridors. This means pre-designating and pre-zoning these lands for both residential and commercial intensification, which will aid in funding operational costs of transit.

In simpler terms, we need to ensure there are enough people using this new transit line to cover the cost of running it.

A key component of that is for municipalities to update their zoning bylaws to conform to official plans, helping meet intensification objectives of the provincial growth plan while eliminating unnecessary delays and costs for new-home purchasers.

> **This is not a time for small plans. It's time to step up and act with courage**

This sounds like a big undertaking, but this is not a time for small plans. It's time to step up and act with courage, and there are 1.6 billion reasons to do so. Now that the funding is in place, we need to shift our focus on building transit-oriented communities.

BILD will continue to represent the interest of city builders and new-home buyers as we work together with our government partners to build efficient and effective communities, create new quality jobs, and help invest in the future of our region for generations to come.

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

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Masters of Flip stars Dave and Kortney Wilson. "I'm the design ying to Dave's renovation yang," Kortney says. W NETWORK

Masters of Flip on small space fixes

RENOVATING

Home buyers will notice hidden gems, open shelving

Sometimes it is well worth the effort of renovating a house that seems like a lost cause, especially when it comes to fetching the highest possible price for the house in the end.

Just ask real-estate and house-flipping experts Dave and Kortney Wilson, the stars of the upcoming home renovation show Masters of Flip, who suss out worn-out homes and "flip them" — turn them into prime properties that generate a profit when they sell. Oh, and they do this with limited time and budget.

"Dave is a rock star at finding the gems," Kortney says, "and trust me, they are all diamonds in the rough leaving much to the imagination."

The Canadian-born couple, who have renovated more than 40 houses together, are now based in Nashville, Tenn. They took time for a Q&A with Metro about the show and sprucing up small spaces.

How did your very first renovation project turn out, and what did you learn from it?

Kortney: We learned on the first renovation that this could be a life changer for us. It wasn't until the second where we learned the hard lessons — ha. We thought we would make $35,000 and after (the house sat) on the market for several weeks, we ended up making closer to $14,000. The market turned shortly after and we both felt lucky to have sold it and made a profit at all.
Dave: Lesson learned: bloat your budgets and be conservative on the front end. If everything goes wrong and you can still make a profit, that house needs to be flipped.

How can a homeowner know a renovation is necessary?

Kortney: If the home has powder-blue tile covering the bathrooms, or laminate countertops and paneling from the '70s, it's a sure fire way to know that baby needs to be renovated. It's time. If there are houses in the neighbourhood that are fetching a much higher price after updates have been made, it is likely a great time to sink some money into your home and enjoy it while knowing you will still get your money out of it if you decide to sell.

It seems obvious to renovate a small space to create more space, but are there other reasons to renovate a small space?

Kortney: Absolutely. You have to be careful that the numbers make sense so not to over indulge on the finishing touches and price yourself out of the market. Having said that, typically, smaller homes go for a higher price/square foot and you can afford to put some extras into the home. Try and focus on creating storage. Maximize what is there and create open shelving and hidden gems within the space. This will not be overlooked by a buyer in the future. Everyone has stuff and people always want to know where their holiday decorations, and winter clothing are going to go.

What are the most common renovation mistakes you've seen and how can they be avoided?

Kortney: We see a lot of kitchens that aren't laid out properly. It's important to remember that when you lay out the kitchen, the appliances aren't there. Make sure they aren't all beside each other.
Dave: If you watch the show, you will hear Kortney talk a lot about recessing the refrigerator so it doesn't awkwardly stick into the room. Of all the rooms, this will be the hub of your home and it's important to get it right the first time since it will likely also be the most expensive of the renovations.

METRO CANADA

Cottage style, at home or away

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes

Whether you head off to a cottage each weekend or are planning staycations this summer, there's no reason why your favourite weekend refuge can't look good.

1 Tetsu Moku Pendant Lamp
Rustic meets elegance with weathered wood and classic lines. $199, UrbanBarn.com

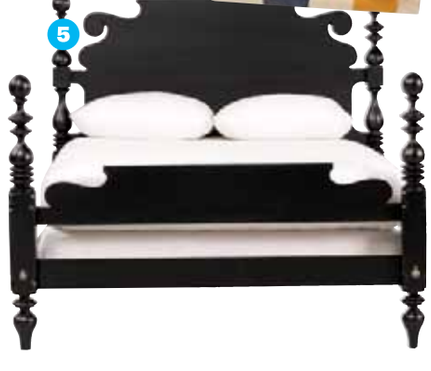
2 Cottage Life Weekend Collection Sticks Chair
Solid wood and hand made with pure nostalgic style. $479, AmbersFurniture.com

3 Milk Bottles In Tray
Add a tall straw and your favourite libation for an all-day cocktail. $13, Homesense.ca

4 Hudson Bay Company Multi-Striped Napkins
Infuse your dinner party with Canadiana flavour. $25/set of four, TheBay.com

5 Antique Black Quincy Bed
Eighteenth-century lines mix with a dramatic colour twist. $1,900, EthanAllen.com

6 Locust Kona Patchwork Quilt
Blue and white is always a classic summer colour combination. $200, UrbanOutfitters.com



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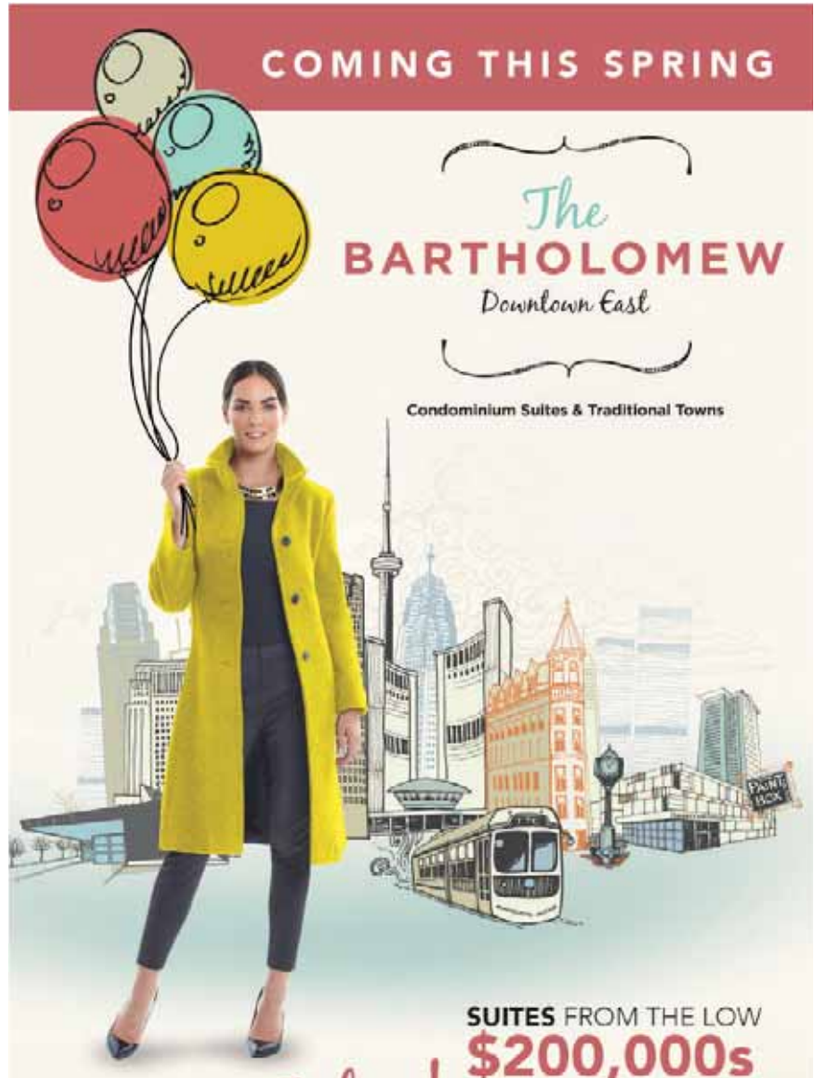

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A handira, or Moroccan wedding blanket, transforms a couch. DABITO

Bohemian house style on a budget

HOW TO

Bold colours, second-hand pieces key: author

Emily Laurence
Metro in New York City

Creating a home rich in texture and colour doesn't mean you have to wait around for a Calypso sample sale or hope one of the chic Tibetan boutiques in your neighbourhood has a sidewalk sale.

"The key to a bohemian styled home is a layered and collected home that reflects your own personality," says Justine Blakeney, author of the coffee-table book, The New Bohemians.

"The heart of a bohemian home is creativity," she says.

With that in mind, we called her for tips on how to create a boho home without going broke.

Paint it bold

Blakeney says the easiest way to make your flea market find look like it was imported from Morocco is to paint it, and her big tip for going boho is to go bold.

"People get scared to make a bold paint choice because they're scared they'll hate it. But if you hate it, you can just paint it a different colour. It's not a permanent thing," she says.

Shop second-hand

The couches and beds featured in The New Bohemians are all layered with beautiful, brightly patterned pillows.

Blakeney says she scored most of hers on eBay. "Instead of paying $80 for a pillow from a New York boutique, I'll pay $15 for one I find on eBay," she says, adding that the best search terms to use are "kilim pillows" or "berber Moroccan pillows."

Drape the couch

No one will know where your couch is from if you drape a handira, a Moroccan wedding blanket over it, Blakeney says. Once again, she hits up eBay to score an authentic one for a fraction of the cost.

Accent with potted plants

Instead of spending a fortune on freshly cut flowers, Blakeney says to figure out what type of potted plants will thrive in your apartment.

"I included a plantipedia in the back of the book to bust the green thumb/brown thumb myth," she says.

"You just need the information about what type of plants thrive in the environment you have at home, how often you should water it, and then just follow through."

To her, a plant trailing down a tall bookshelf or a beautiful palm arching in the corner are a staple to bohemian living and provide a figurative and literal breath of fresh air.

"Everything around us is computers and cars. Even at home we have all these machines, metal and cement. We need to balance out urban living with plants," Blakeney points out.

A bold hue revives a dresser. DABITO

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Fix cracks in your foundation.

Ensure the ground slopes away from your house.

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Install a sump pump to remove excess water.

Install a backwater valve to prevent water and sewage from backing up.

Divert your downspouts away from the foundation.

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Bryce Harper hit three home runs as the Washington Nationals topped the Miami Marlins

Thursday, May 7, 2015

Russell muscles Jays to win

IN MONTREAL

TFC opens Canadian championship with loss

Jack McInerney scored in the 68th minute as the Montreal Impact downed Toronto FC 1-0 in the first leg of their Amway Canadian Championship semi-final on Wednesday night.

McInerney had just missed a chance when he was in alone on Chris Konopka, but a minute later he was at the far post to bang in Nigel Reo-Coker's cross from the right side.

The second leg of the two-game, aggregate-goals series is May 13 in Toronto.

TFC dressed three regulars, Michael Bradley, Nick Hagglund and Justin Morrow. Stars Jozy Altidore and Sebastian Giovinco were not with the team.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto's Luke Moore and Montreal's Laurent Ciman collide on Wednesday in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Catcher brings power stroke in finale vs. Yanks

Russell Martin homered and Mark Buehrle worked five innings for the victory as the Toronto Blue Jays defeated the New York Yankees 5-1 on Wednesday night to take the rubber game of the three-game series.

Martin finished with three hits while Chris Colabello had his first career four-hit game to help the Blue Jays improve to 14-15 on the season. The Yankees, who lead the American League East division standings, fell to 17-11.

New York scored its lone run off Buehrle in the first inning. Alex Rodriguez doubled to move Chris Young to third base and Mark Teixeira drove him in with a grounder to the right side of the infield.

The bottom of the Toronto order helped the Blue Jays take the lead in the second inning.

Kevin Pillar reached on a bunt single and Colabello lashed a ball just inside the third-base line for a double. After Ryan Goins lined out, No. 9 hitter Ezequiel Carrera delivered a two-run single.

Martin, a Toronto native who grew up in Chelsea, Que., opened the bottom of the fourth by lining a pitch off CC Sabathia's backside. The six-foot-seven 285-pound southpaw barely flinched as Martin scampered to first base.

A balk moved Martin up a base and he scored on Colabello's one-out single.

Blue Jays catcher Russell Martin crushes a sixth-inning home run to left field off of Yankees starter CC Sabathia on Wednesday night at Rogers Centre. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WEDNESDAY In Toronto

BLUE JAYS	YANKEES
5	1

The Yankees loaded the bases with two outs in the fifth inning but Teixeira grounded out to end the threat. Buehrle (4-2) allowed six hits, one earned run and a walk while striking out three.

Martin tacked on an insurance run in the sixth with a solo shot that landed in the Toronto bullpen. He has gone deep in each of his last four starts and now has seven homers on the season.

Pillar and Colabello followed with back-to-back singles to put runners on the corners with one out. Sabathia (0-5) escaped further damage by getting Goins to pop up and then fanning Carrera.

Sabathia was pulled with one out in the seventh inning. He allowed four earned runs, nine hits and two walks while striking out four.

The Blue Jays tacked on an insurance run in the eighth inning when Colabello scored on a two-out triple by Goins. Toronto outhit New York 12-7.

Toronto's Roberto Osuna worked 2-1/3 innings of scoreless relief. Aaron Loup finished off the eighth inning and Brett Cecil gave up a walk in a scoreless ninth.

Announced attendance was 21,312 with the roof open at Rogers Centre.

The Jays get a day off Thursday before welcoming the Boston Red Sox to town for a three-game series. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Bolts push Habs to the brink

NHL PLAYOFFS

Last-second goal has Tampa Bay ahead 3-0 in series

GAME 3 In Tampa

2	1

Tyler Johnson scored a buzzer-beater to put the Montreal Canadiens on the brink of elimination.

Johnson scored with 1.1 seconds remaining in regulation to give the Tampa Bay Lightning a 2-1 victory in Game 3 Wednesday night at Amalie Arena.

The Canadiens face elimination in Game 4 Thursday night.

Montreal controlled the puck and the play for most of the night but lost in just about the most heart-breaking way possible. The puck crossed the line just before the buzzer to give Tampa Bay a three games to none lead in the second-round playoff series.

Brendan Gallagher scored the only goal for the Habs, who got 17 saves from goaltender Carey Price but not one more to send the game into overtime.

Alex Killorn scored the first goal for the Lightning, who have won all eight meetings with Montreal dating back to the regular season.

Tampa Bay goaltender Ben Bishop stopped 30 of the 31 shots he faced for the victory.

After becoming the 101st team in NHL history to win the first two games of a best-of-seven series on the road, the Lightning were worried about matching the Habs' desperation. A sleepy start across the board made that seem like less of a concern.

Then, 12 minutes in, a turnover by Montreal defenceman Andrei Markov gave Tampa Bay a chance to cycle the puck. Steven Stamkos fed Killorn with a pretty back-handed pass, and Killorn beat Price high glove side to make it 1-0.

With all the opportunities the Habs created and couldn't cash in on, they began to press. But with the puck in the offensive zone they finally broke through.

At 10:03 of the third, Gallagher put the puck on net and tapped it in under Bishop's right pad.

The Habs looked like they would survive to force overtime but then gave up the goal to Johnson in the dying seconds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN D.C.

Caps lock up victory on Burakovsky's two goals

Andre Burakovsky scored twice, Braden Holtby made 28 saves and the Washington Capitals beat the New York Rangers 2-1 Wednesday night to take a 3-1 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Lightning centre Tyler Johnson, middle, celebrates scoring the game-winner with Ondrej Palat and Victor Hedman in Game 3 of their second-round playoff series against the Canadiens in Tampa, Fla., Wednesday. PHELAN M. EBENHACK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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GAME 2 In Cleveland

106	91
CAVALIERS	BULLS

LeBron James attacked from the start and scored 33 points, Kyrie Irving added 21 and the Cleveland Cavaliers evened their semifinal series with Chicago with a 106-91 victory over the Bulls in Game 2 on Wednesday night.

Donning his signature headband for the first time in two months and powering to the basket, James kept the Cavs from falling into a 2-0 hole. He added eight rebounds and five assists for Cleveland, which led by 25 in the third quarter and withstood a third-quarter charge by the Bulls.

For the second straight game, the Cavs were without forward Kevin Love (shoulder surgery) and J.R. Smith (two-game suspension). But they had James and he was more like himself after a sub-par performance in the opener.

"We're a little banged up, we're short-handed, so I have to be aggressive," James said. "Even more aggressive than my usual self, and I was happy I was able to make a couple of plays to help our team win tonight."

Jimmy Butler scored 18 and Derrick Rose had 14 points and 10 assists for the Bulls, who host Game 3 on Friday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Cavaliers' LeBron James drives to the basket against Bulls centre Joakim Noah.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Real Madrid worth most
Forbes estimates Real Madrid is the world's most valuable soccer team for the third straight year despite a five per cent decrease to $3.26 billion US.

The magazine said Wednesday it lists Barcelona second at $3.16 billion, a one per cent drop, followed by Manchester United at $3.1 billion, a 10 per cent rise. Bayern Munich is fourth at $2.35 billion after a 27 per cent increase. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL targets millennials
New CFL commissioner Jeffrey Orridge says once younger Canadians are exposed to his league, they'll be hooked. And he's looking to a U.S.-based company that brands itself as the "millennial voice and destination for sports" to help lure the next generation of fans.

The CFL announced a partnership with Whistle Sports, a digital network with millions of subscribers on platforms such as YouTube and Facebook.

To mark the partnership, a video of Hamilton Tiger-Cats slotback Andy Fantuz breaking the world record for most one-handed catches in one minute was released. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada claws back to top Sweden at worlds
Patrick Wiercioch, Tyler Ennis and Tyler Seguin scored third-period goals to rally Canada to a 6-4 win over Sweden at the world hockey championship Wednesday in Prague.

Ennis broke a 4-4 tie on the power play at 13:31 of the third period for Canada (4-0-0), which rallied from a 3-0 first-period deficit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Barcelona bosses Bayern

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Messi's boys turn the screw at Camp Nou

Lionel Messi scores a 90th-minute goal on Bayern Munich's Manuel Neuer during Wednesday's Champions League semifinal first leg match at Camp Nou in Barcelona. LLUIS GENE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

SEMIFINAL First leg

FCB	FC BAYERN MUNCHEN
3	0

Pep Guardiola had seen Lionel Messi scoring spectacular goals after dazzling runs many times before. Only now, Messi was doing it against Guardiola's team.

Messi scored twice and set up Neymar for another as host Barcelona overwhelmed Bayern Munich in the final 20 minutes for a 3-0 victory Wednesday night in the first leg of their Champions League semifinal.

"Again, Messi leaves us speechless," Barcelona midfielder Andres Iniesta said.

Messi put Barcelona ahead in the 77th minute with a 19-yard left-footed shot that beat goalkeeper Manuel Neuer to the near post following a giveaway by Juan Bernat to Dani Alves.

Messi doubled the lead three minutes later when he took a pass from Ivan Rakitic at the top of 18-yard box, dribbled in with such speed and change of direction that defender Jerome Boateng fell. Messi then chipped past Neuer with his right foot from six yards.

"It wasn't only Messi. Barca is a very good team," said a dour Guardiola, who coached Barcelona to 14 titles in four seasons,

Messi has 53 goals in 51 games this season, including 10 in 11 Champs League matches. With 77 career Champions League goals, he moved one ahead of Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo for the record.

"Guardiola knows Messi, and he knows that if he is inspired nobody can stop him," Barcelona defender Gerard Pique said. "He scored two spectacular goals."

Barcelona's third goal developed when Luis Suarez was fouled by Bastian Schweinsteiger near midfield, the ball rebounded to Messi and Italian referee Nicola Rizzoli allowed play to continue because of Barcelona's advantage. Messi fed Neymar from midfield for a breakaway, and Neymar slotted past Neuer from 14 yards in the fourth minute of stoppage time.

The second leg of the total-goals series is Tuesday in Munich, and Barcelona will seek to reach the final for the first time since winning its fourth European title in 2011. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **If he is inspired nobody can stop him.**
> Barcelona defender Gerard Pique on Lionel Messi

SOCCER

FIFA fires back at German broadcaster

FIFA has heavily criticized its broadcasting partner in Germany for a documentary about World Cup hosts Russia and Qatar that was aired after a reporter revealed his filming crew had been arrested in Doha and had footage and personal data deleted.

FIFA's communications director Walter de Gregorio alleged Wednesday that German network ARD distorted facts in a "bashing" of the governing body. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **It looked like they want to hide something or want to prohibit us coming.**
> Reporter Florian Bauer

HOLY HOOPS POPE UPS HIS GAME Harlem Globetrotters Hi-Lite Bruton, left, Ant Atkinson and Big Easy Lofton watch as teammate Flight Time Lang helps Pope Francis spin a basketball on his finger during the Pope's weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Wednesday. L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO/POOL PHOTO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Mayweather's ex-girlfriend sues for defamation

The mother of three of Floyd Mayweather Jr.'s children sued the undefeated boxing champion for defamation over his recent comments about her and a 2010 domestic violence attack in Las Vegas.

Josie Harris filed the lawsuit Tuesday in Los Angeles Superior Court.

The lawsuit focuses on comments Mayweather made during an April interview with Yahoo News anchor Katie Couric in which he said he was restraining his ex-girlfriend and that she was on drugs at the time of the incident. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brady 'aware' of meddling: Inquiry

DEFLATEGATE

Report says locker-room aide took the footballs

An NFL investigation released Wednesday concluded New England Patriots employees likely deflated footballs used in the AFC Championship and that quarterback Tom Brady was "at least generally aware" of the rules violations.

The NFL began investigating what's now known as "Deflategate" after the Patriots defeated the Colts 45-7 on Jan. 18. The Colts complained that several balls were under-inflated and the NFL confirmed that 11 of the 12 footballs were under the limit.

The investigation started as the Patriots were preparing for the Super Bowl — which they won two weeks later. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said Troy Vincent, the league's executive vice-president of football operations, would review the 243-page report on attorney Ted Wells' investigation and consider what steps to take next.

"We will continue our efforts to protect the integrity of the game and promote fair play," Goodell said. The NFL requires balls to be inflated between 12.5 and 13.5 pounds per square inch, and each team is responsible for the balls it uses on offence.

Tom Brady has pleaded innocence in the ordeal. GETTY IMAGES

Footballs with less pressure can be easier to grip and catch. Some quarterbacks prefer footballs that have less air. Brady said he prefers footballs inflated to 12.5 and on many occasions, Brady said he never asked for balls to be deflated outside of the rules.

But the NFL report concluded "it was more than probable than not" that Jim McNally, the officials' locker-room attendant, and John Jastremski, an equipment assistant for the Patriots, were involved in "a deliberate effort to release air" from the footballs before kickoff of the AFC title game — and after they were examined by the referee.

The report cites evidence that McNally took the game balls into a bathroom at Gillette Stadium, and stayed there for "an amount of time sufficient to deflate 13 footballs using a needle." Other evidence included referee Walt Anderson's inability to locate the previously approved footballs at the start of the game — the first time that had happened to him in 19 years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Roasted seafood over linguini with lemon olive oil

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Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 12 minutes
Serving Size: 4

Ingredients

- 12 oz raw shrimp, peeled and deveined (tail left on)
- 8 oz cleaned squid cut into rings
- 12 mussels, scrubbed
- 8 oz linguini
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup thinly sliced red onion
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced zucchini
- 3 Tbsp olive oil
- 3 Tbsp freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 2 tsp crushed fresh garlic
- 1 tsp hot chili sauce, or to taste
- 1/3 cup chopped cilantro or basil
- pinch salt and freshly ground black pepper

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 425ºF. Line a baking sheet with foil and spray with cooking oil.

2. Place the shrimp, squid and mussels on the prepared baking sheet. Roast for 8 minutes, or until the mussels open. Remove from the oven and keep covered.

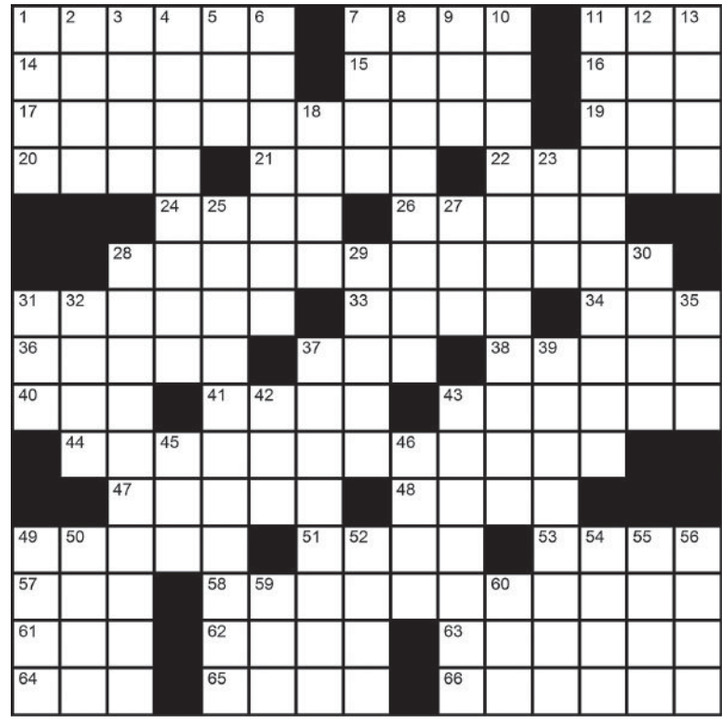
3. While the seafood roasts, cook the linguini in boiling water until al dente, about 8 minutes. Drain, reserving 2 tbsp of the pasta water for the sauce. Set aside.

4. While the pasta cooks, spray a large non-stick skillet with cooking oil, add the vegetable oil and place over medium heat. Add the onion, bell pepper and zucchini; stir-fry for 4 minutes, just until the vegetables begin to soften. Add the seafood, pasta, reserved pasta water, olive oil, lemon juice, garlic, chili sauce, cilantro, salt and pepper. Toss well and serve.

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS

1. Rain, e.g.
7. Richie's mom, Fonzie-style
11. Bathroom cleansing brand
14. Go for _ _ (Travel by car)
15. Prie-_ (Prayer bench)
16. Brouhaha
17. Extreme entertainment enjoyer: 2 wds.
19. Modern
20. _-les-Moulineaux, France
21. Wood: French
22. "Presto!" [pl.]
24. Pre-Virgo people
26. Axe: French
28. Anne of _ _ (Green Gables girl Anne is now a teacher in Summerside, PEI in this 1936 L.M Montgomery book)
31. Patriot Games novelist Tom
33. "At Last" singer Ms. James
34. Maude portrayer
36. Madonna's "_ _ Prayer"
37. Monogram of the author of Treasure Island
38. Sales pitch
40. 'Client' completer
41. Libertine
43. Sacred songs
44. 1967: Canada's _ _ (Pierre Berton book)
47. "_ Harbor" (2001)
48. Invoice abbr.
49. Britannica, e.g.
51. "Here It Goes Again" band: 2 wds.
53. "Bonanza" son
57. Bygone bird
58. Design to transfer onto a t-shirt: 2 wds.
61. 'B' or 'C' of The Spice Girls
62. Jacob van _ the Elder (Flemish painter)
63. Actress Gail
64. _-inclusive
65. Bill 'The Science Guy', and surnamesakes
66. Flippantly talks back

DOWN

1. "I Luh Ya _" by Jennifer Lopez
2. Nutrition amts.
3. Blunders
4. Daytime show on Canadian television since 1984
5. Trellis plant
6. Computer-animated flick, "Mr. _ & Sherman" (2014)
7. Gladiator's 1502
8. Drumming punctuations
9. Beaufort _
10. Movie or TV show with a loyal niche audience: 2 wds.
11. Gloria _, CNN host Anderson Cooper's designer mom
12. Notion
13. Does lawn work
18. Meddlesome [var. sp.]
23. "Gotcha!"
25. Edwin _ (Toronto Blue Jays player)
27. Fitting
28. Hotel service; or, warning prompting change: 2 wds.
29. Ship co-owner in Moby-Dick, Captain _
30. Feel
31. Canadian actor Mr. Bennett
32. Lively tune
35. Mr. Pacino's
37. Be a dog in an off-leash park: 2 wds.
39. Florida's NHL team
42. 'To hear' in Spanish
43. Pennsylvania mountains
45. King: Spanish
46. American Samoa's capital, when repeated
49. Ms. Stone
50. Liam's rocker brother
52. Chess pieces, e.g.
54. Wood sorrels
55. "Smooth Operator" singer
56. Mr. Stallone's, briefly
59. Banjo player Mr. Clark
60. Filmmaker org.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You may enjoy upsetting the odds but don't get carried away. The planets warn if you make too many waves between now and the weekend it could be you who ends up underwater.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Do something different over the next 24 hours, something that those who believe you are traditional by nature would never guess you are capable of. It's time to get yourself noticed.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Whatever else you do today do not put money before love. If you want to impress someone who means a lot to you then do whatever it takes and don't worry how much it may cost. Whatever the price it will be worth it.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You have nothing to worry about, so stop being so fearful and get out there into the world. The planets indicate if you think lucky you will be lucky — so what have you got to lose?

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Do you think with your head or do you feel with your heart? Over the next two or three days you should favor your heart over your head. Not everything in life needs to make sense.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The order of the day is to have as much fun as is humanly possible. You have been working far too hard of late. If you're not smiling then you are doing it wrong.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Work and romance will go well together over the next two or three days — you don't have to choose between them. Use your Libran charms to influence people in positions of power.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Do something that makes you feel good about yourself. Also, you may need to remove yourself from an environment that reminds you of things, or people, you would prefer to forget.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
No matter what happens today, don't take it too seriously. Treat whatever occurs, be it "good" or be it "bad" as part of life's little game. It's your attitude that makes your world.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This should be a thoroughly enjoyable day for you, though looking back a few days hence you may wonder how and why you acted so out of character.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You won't hesitate to help someone in need today but the planets warn that the tale of woe you hear is only half of the story. Be that as it may you are not the sort to let them suffer.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Someone new on your social scene will get your heart beating faster today. Could a new romance be forming? There is certainly a psychic link between you, a karmic connection that neither can ignore.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

				2	7	9		
	7	8	4	6				
	9		8					7
	4	1		7				3
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AT 0% FOR 60 MONTHS

WITH $0 DOWN◊

DEALER INVOICE PRICE OF $16,308‡ INCLUDES $719 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ, DELIVERY AND DESTINATION FEES. PLUS HST.

HWY: 6.3L/100 KM
CITY: 8.9L/100 KM▼

GLS model shown♦

2015 ACCENT 5-DOOR L

2014 Accent "Highest Ranked Small Car in Initial Quality in the U.S.ΔΔ"

LEASE FOR ONLY $58 BIWEEKLY. THAT'S LIKE PAYING $29 WEEKLY

NEW LOWER PAYMENT

AT 0% FOR 60 MONTHS WITH $995 DOWN◊

DEALER INVOICE PRICE OF $14,591‡ INCLUDES $636 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ, DELIVERY AND DESTINATION FEES. PLUS HST.

HWY: 9.3L/100 KM
CITY: 11.6L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦

2015 TUCSON GL FWD MANUAL

2015 CLEAROUT

LEASE FOR ONLY $118 BIWEEKLY. THAT'S LIKE PAYING $59 WEEKLY

AT 0.9% FOR 60 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN◊

DEALER INVOICE PRICE OF $23,419‡ INCLUDES $473 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ, DELIVERY AND DESTINATION FEES. PLUS HST.

HWY: 9.8L/100 KM
CITY: 12.9L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦

2015 SANTA FE SPORT 2.4L FWD

ALSO AVAILABLE IN: 7 PASSENGER SEATING

LEASE FOR ONLY $152 BIWEEKLY. THAT'S LIKE PAYING $76 WEEKLY

AT 1.9% FOR 60 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN◊

DEALER INVOICE PRICE OF $27,514‡ INCLUDES $1,313 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ, DELIVERY AND DESTINATION FEES. PLUS HST.

2015 SONATA HYBRID LIMITED:

GET UP TO **$7,000** IN CASH PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ.

HWY: 7.4L/100 KM
CITY: 10.4L/100 KM▼

Sport 2.0T model shown♦

THE ALL-NEW 2015 SONATA GL AUTO

LEASE FOR ONLY $118 BIWEEKLY. THAT'S LIKE PAYING $59 WEEKLY

AT 1.7% FOR 60 MONTHS WITH $995 DOWN◊

DEALER INVOICE PRICE OF $24,575‡ INCLUDES $1,252 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ, DELIVERY AND DESTINATION FEES. PLUS HST.

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